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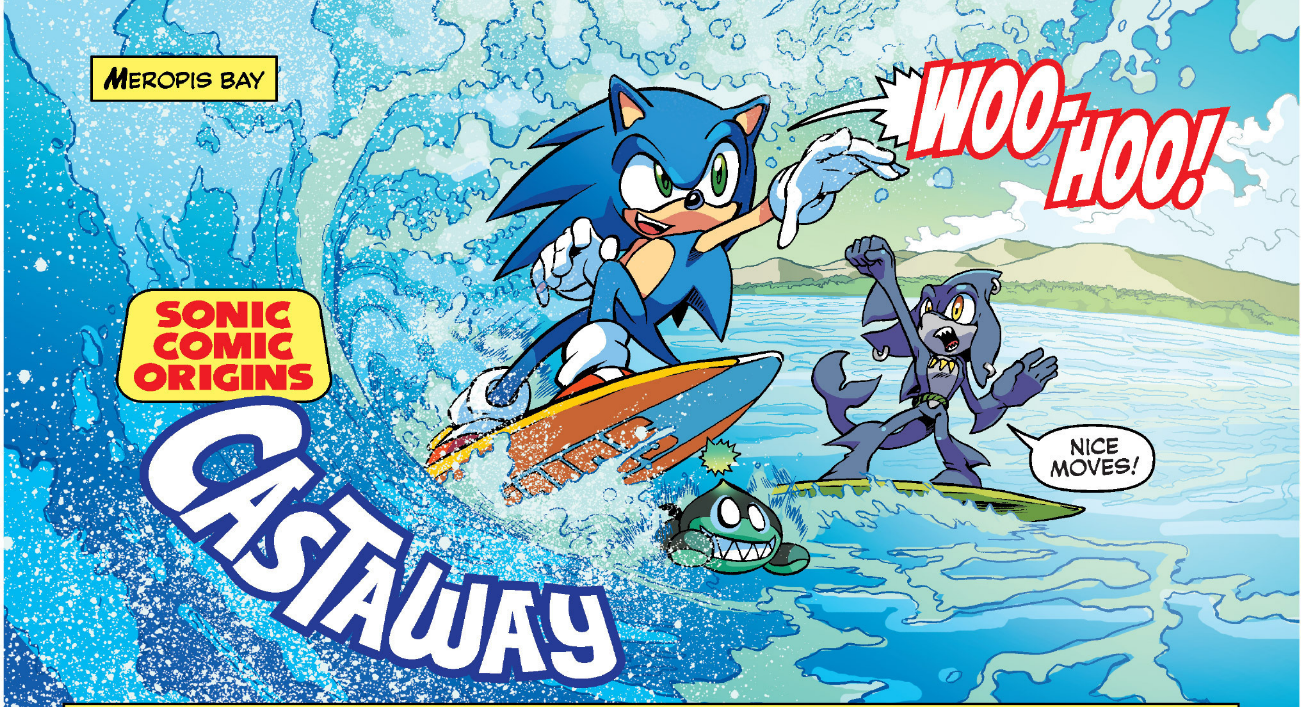
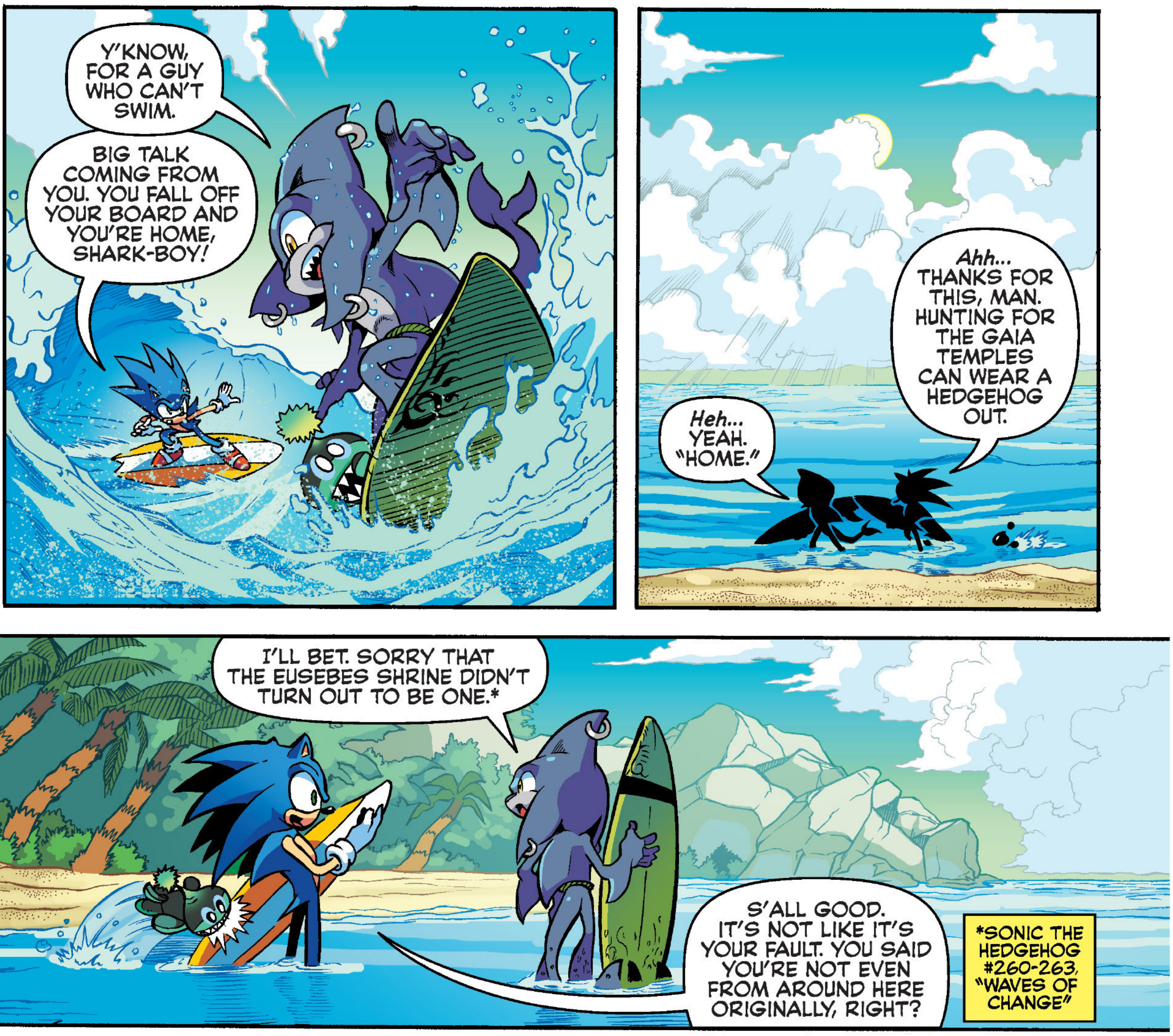
15

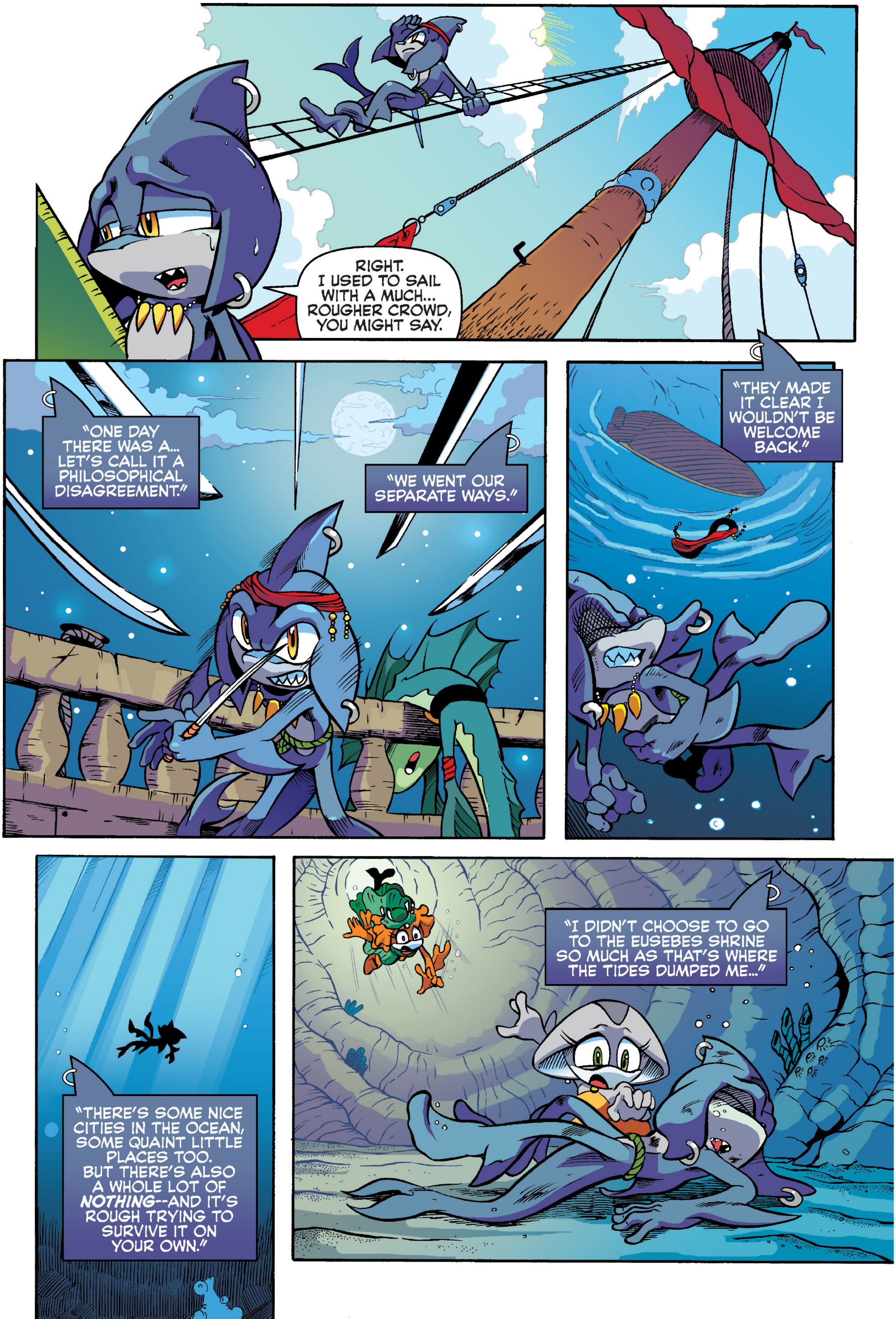
SONIC™
SUPER DIGEST

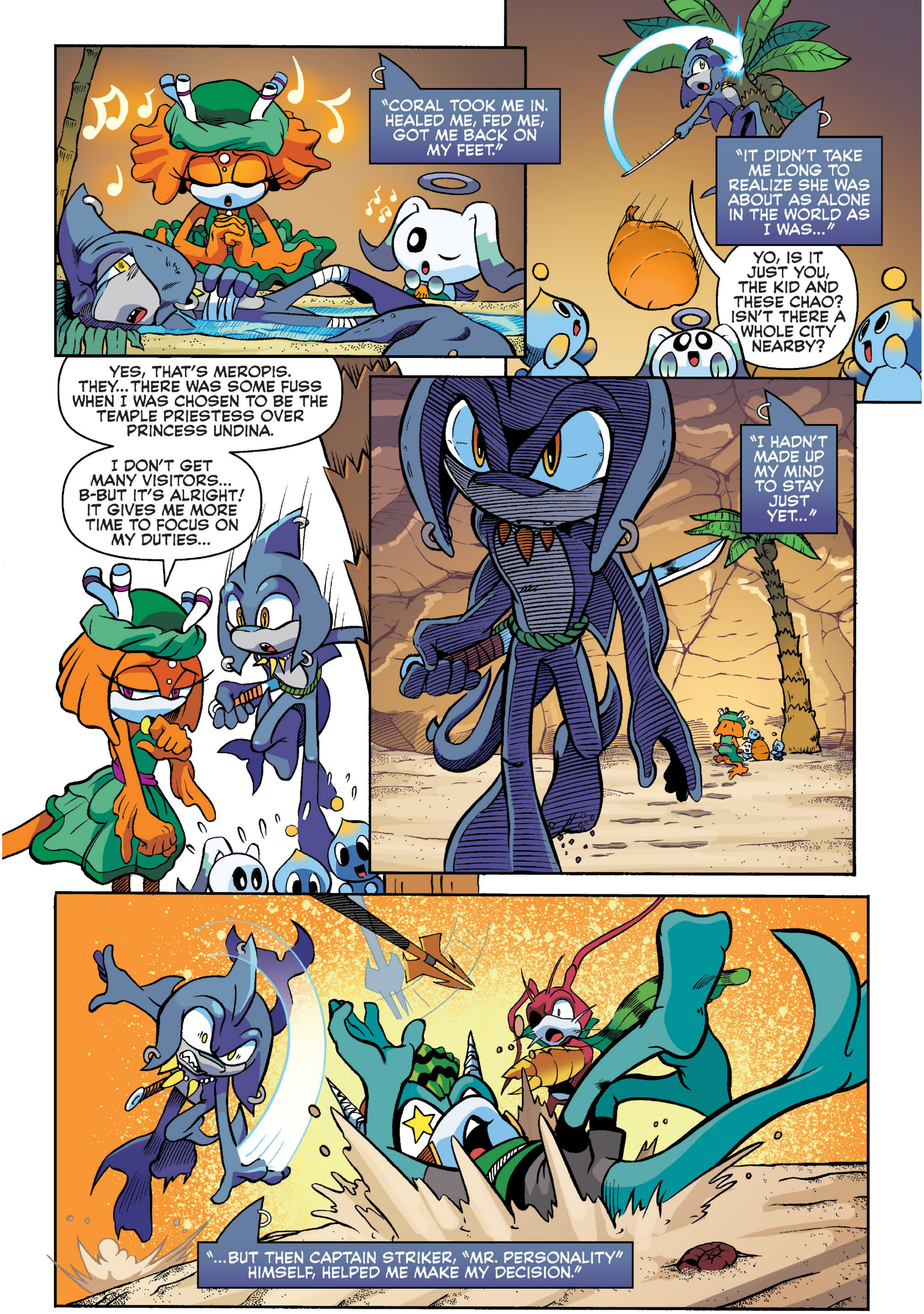
PLUS: A NEW
SONIC™ COMIC ORIGINS
STORY INSIDE!

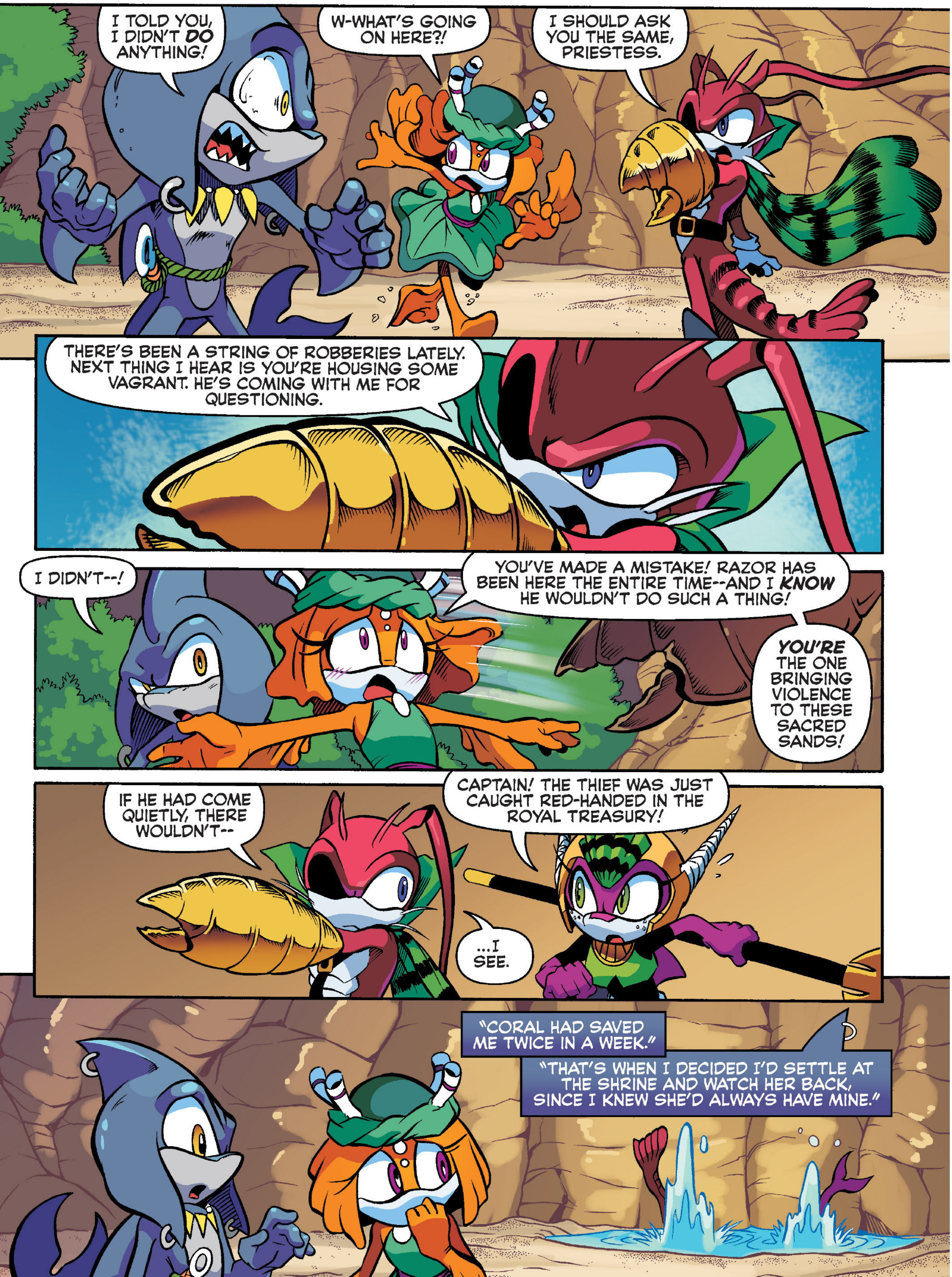

MEROPIS BAY
WOO-HOO!
SONIC COMIC ORIGINS
CASTAWAY
NICE MOVES!

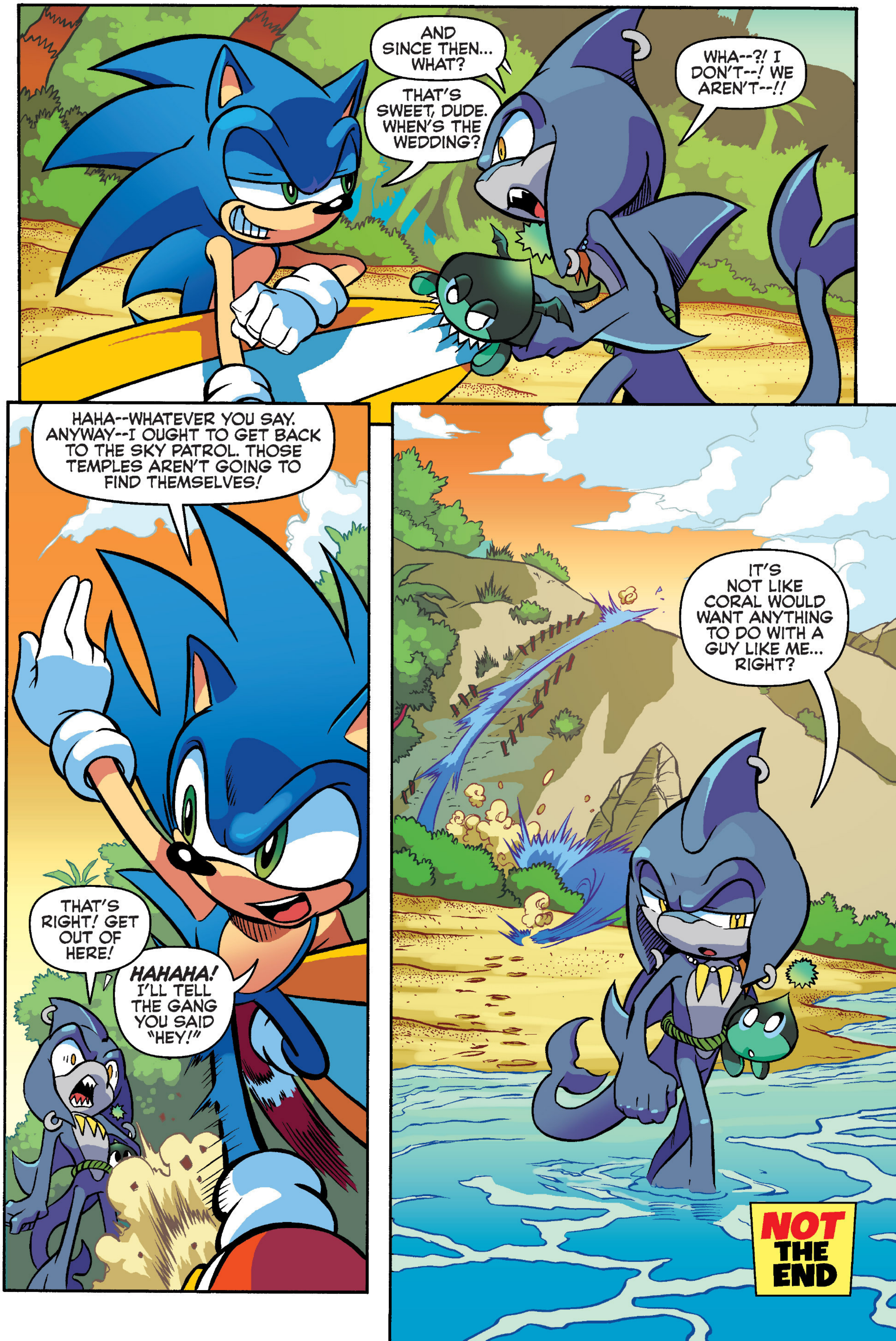
WRITER: IAN FLYNN / PENCILS: ADAM BRYCE THOMAS / INKS: RICK BRYANT / COLORS: MATT HERMS / LETTERS: JACK MORELLI


Y'KNOW, FOR A GUY WHO CAN'T SWIM.
BIG TALK COMING FROM YOU. YOU FALL OFF YOUR BOARD AND YOU'RE HOME, SHARK-BOY!
Ahh... THANKS FOR THIS, MAN. HUNTING FOR THE GAIA TEMPLES CAN WEAR A HEDGEHOG OUT.
Heh... YEAH. "HOME."
I'LL BET. SORRY THAT THE EUSEBES SHRINE DIDN'T TURN OUT TO BE ONE.*
S'ALL GOOD. IT'S NOT LIKE IT'S YOUR FAULT. YOU SAID YOU'RE NOT EVEN FROM AROUND HERE ORIGINALLY, RIGHT?
*SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #260-263, "WAVES OF CHANGE"


RIGHT. I USED TO SAIL WITH A MUCH... ROUGHER CROWD, YOU MIGHT SAY.
"ONE DAY THERE WAS A... LET'S CALL IT A PHILOSOPHICAL DISAGREEMENT."
"WE WENT OUR SEPARATE WAYS."
"THEY MADE IT CLEAR I WOULDN'T BE WELCOME BACK."
"THERE'S SOME NICE CITIES IN THE OCEAN, SOME QUAINT LITTLE PLACES TOO. BUT THERE'S ALSO A WHOLE LOT OF NOTHING--AND IT'S ROUGH TRYING TO SURVIVE IT ON YOUR OWN."
"I DIDN'T CHOOSE TO GO TO THE EUSEBES SHRINE SO MUCH AS THAT'S WHERE THE TIDES DUMPED ME..."


"CORAL TOOK ME IN. HEALED ME, FED ME, GOT ME BACK ON MY FEET."
"IT DIDN'T TAKE ME LONG TO REALIZE SHE WAS ABOUT AS ALONE IN THE WORLD AS I WAS..."
YO, IS IT JUST YOU, THE KID AND THESE CHAO? ISN'T THERE A WHOLE CITY NEARBY?
YES, THAT'S MEROPIS. THEY...THERE WAS SOME FUSS WHEN I WAS CHOSEN TO BE THE TEMPLE PRIESTESS OVER PRINCESS UNDINA.
I DON'T GET MANY VISITORS... B-BUT IT'S ALRIGHT! IT GIVES ME MORE TIME TO FOCUS ON MY DUTIES...
"I HADN'T MADE UP MY MIND TO STAY JUST YET..."
"...BUT THEN CAPTAIN STRIKER, "MR. PERSONALITY" HIMSELF, HELPED ME MAKE MY DECISION."


I TOLD YOU, I DIDN'T *DO* ANYTHING!
W-WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?!
I SHOULD ASK YOU THE SAME, PRIESTESS.
THERE'S BEEN A STRING OF ROBBERIES LATELY. NEXT THING I HEAR IS YOU'RE HOUSING SOME VAGRANT. HE'S COMING WITH ME FOR QUESTIONING.
I DIDN'T--!
YOU'VE MADE A MISTAKE! RAZOR HAS BEEN HERE THE ENTIRE TIME--AND I *KNOW* HE WOULDN'T DO SUCH A THING!
YOU'RE THE ONE BRINGING VIOLENCE TO THESE SACRED SANDS!
IF HE HAD COME QUIETLY, THERE WOULDN'T--
CAPTAIN! THE THIEF WAS JUST CAUGHT RED-HANDED IN THE ROYAL TREASURY!
...I SEE.
"CORAL HAD SAVED ME TWICE IN A WEEK."
"THAT'S WHEN I DECIDED I'D SETTLE AT THE SHRINE AND WATCH HER BACK, SINCE I KNEW SHE'D ALWAYS HAVE MINE."

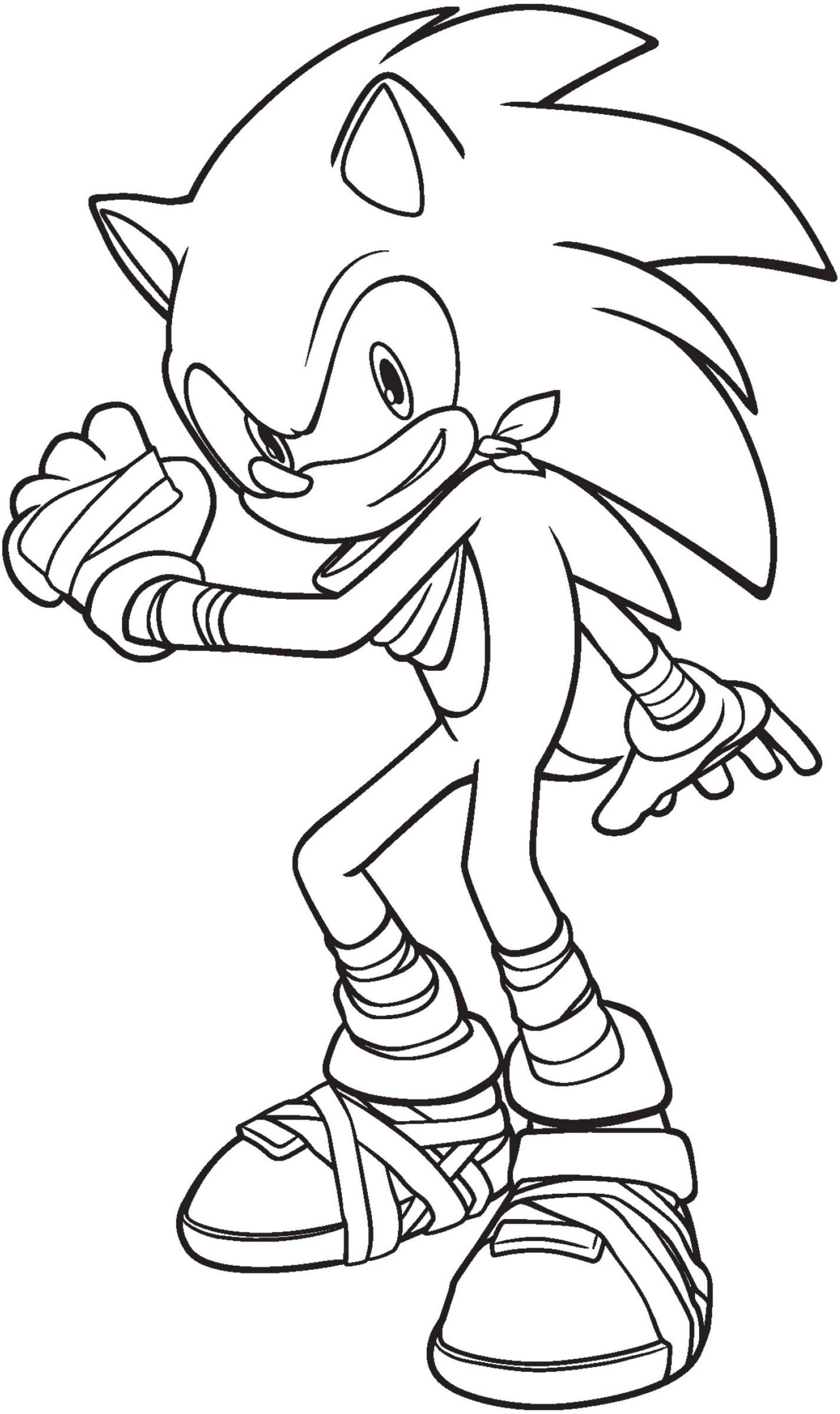

AND SINCE THEN... WHAT?
THAT'S SWEET, DUDE. WHEN'S THE WEDDING?
WHA--?! I DON'T--! WE AREN'T--!!
HAHA--WHATEVER YOU SAY. ANYWAY--I OUGHT TO GET BACK TO THE SKY PATROL. THOSE TEMPLES AREN'T GOING TO FIND THEMSELVES!
THAT'S RIGHT! GET OUT OF HERE!
HAHAHA! I'LL TELL THE GANG YOU SAID "HEY!"
IT'S NOT LIKE CORAL WOULD WANT ANYTHING TO DO WITH A GUY LIKE ME... RIGHT?
NOT THE END

PIN-UP PAGE!

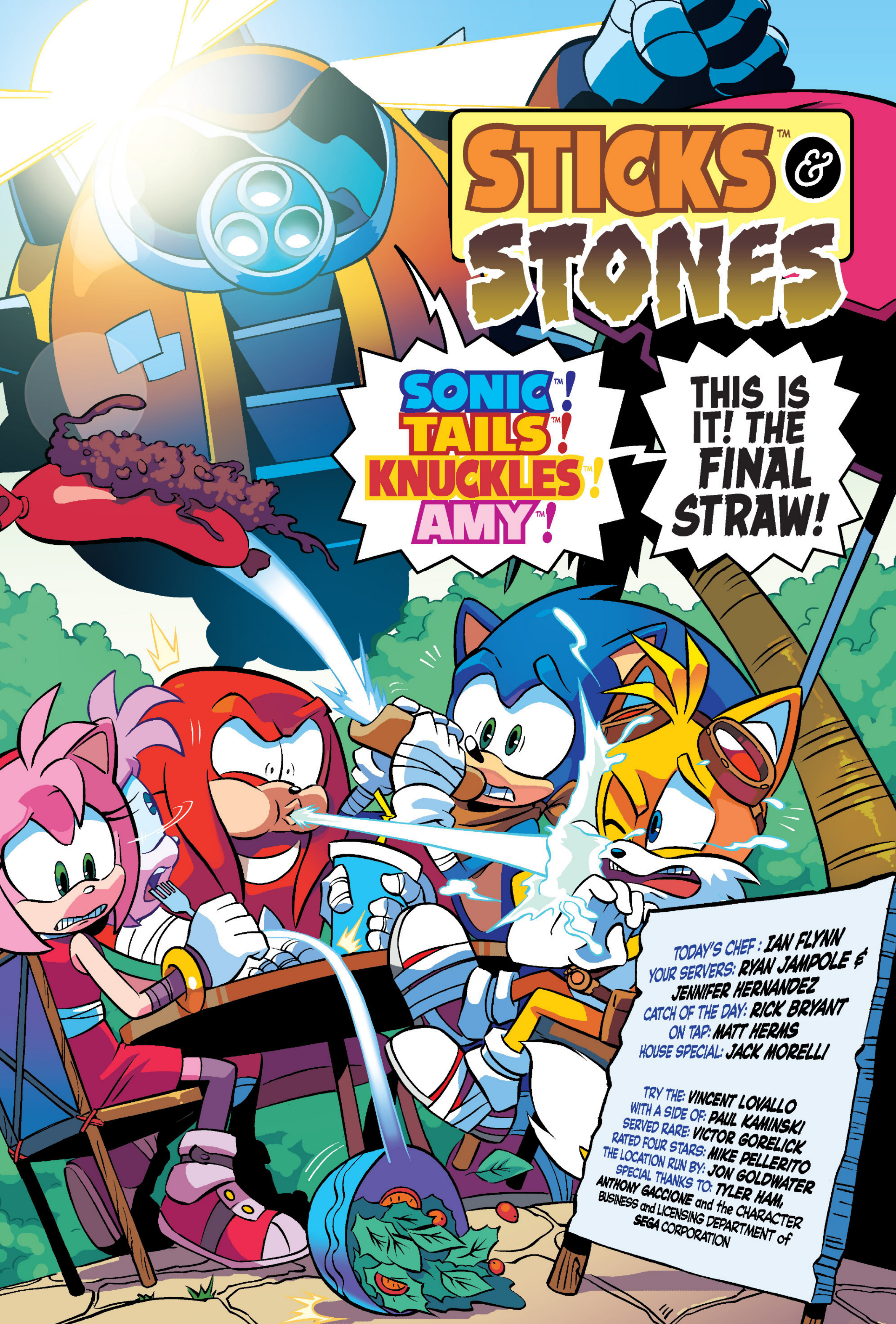
PIN-UP PAGE!
Evan S.

PIN-UP PAGE!
Tracy Yardley!
+ Rick Bryant
+ HERA.

COLORING PAGE!



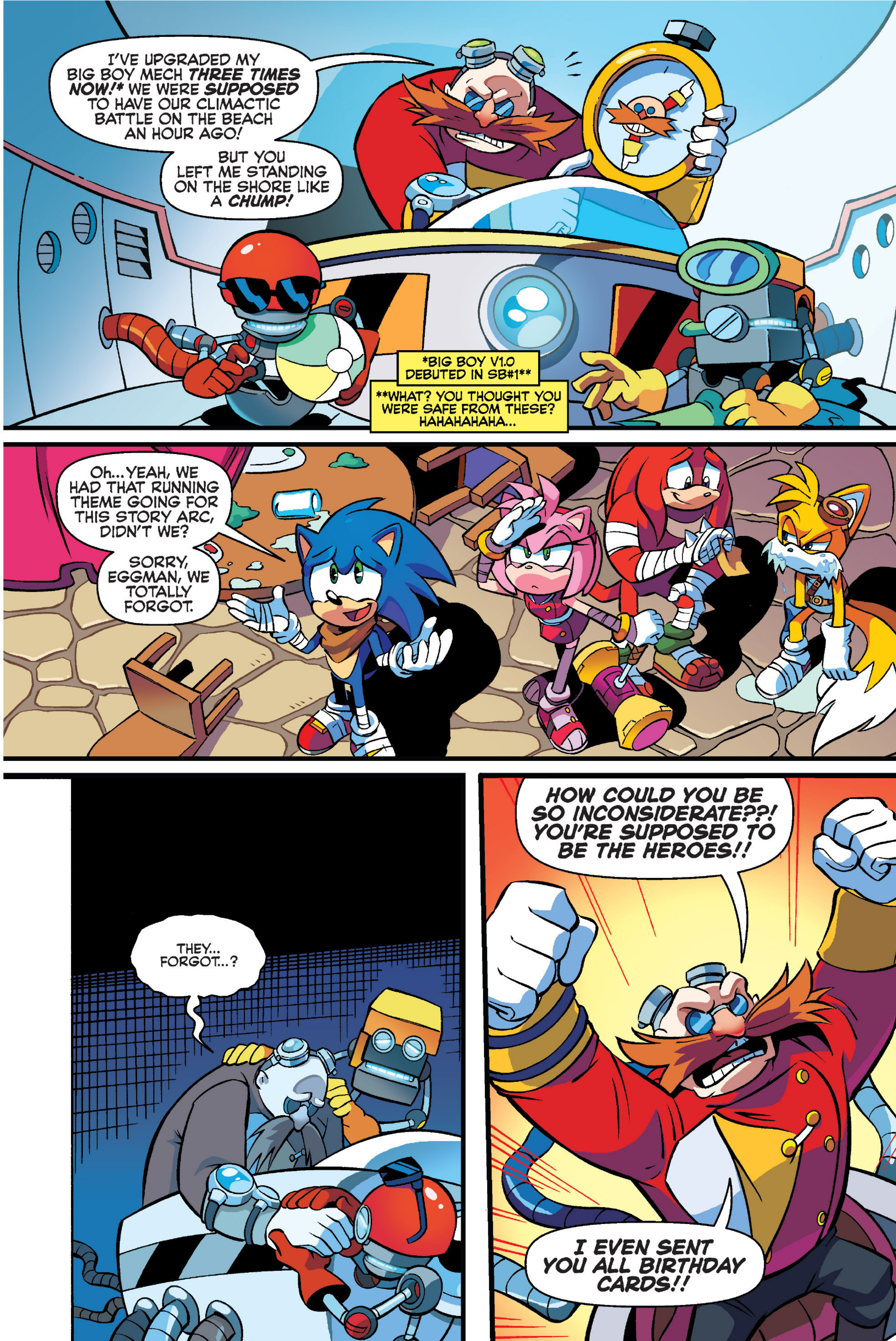
STICKS™ & STONES

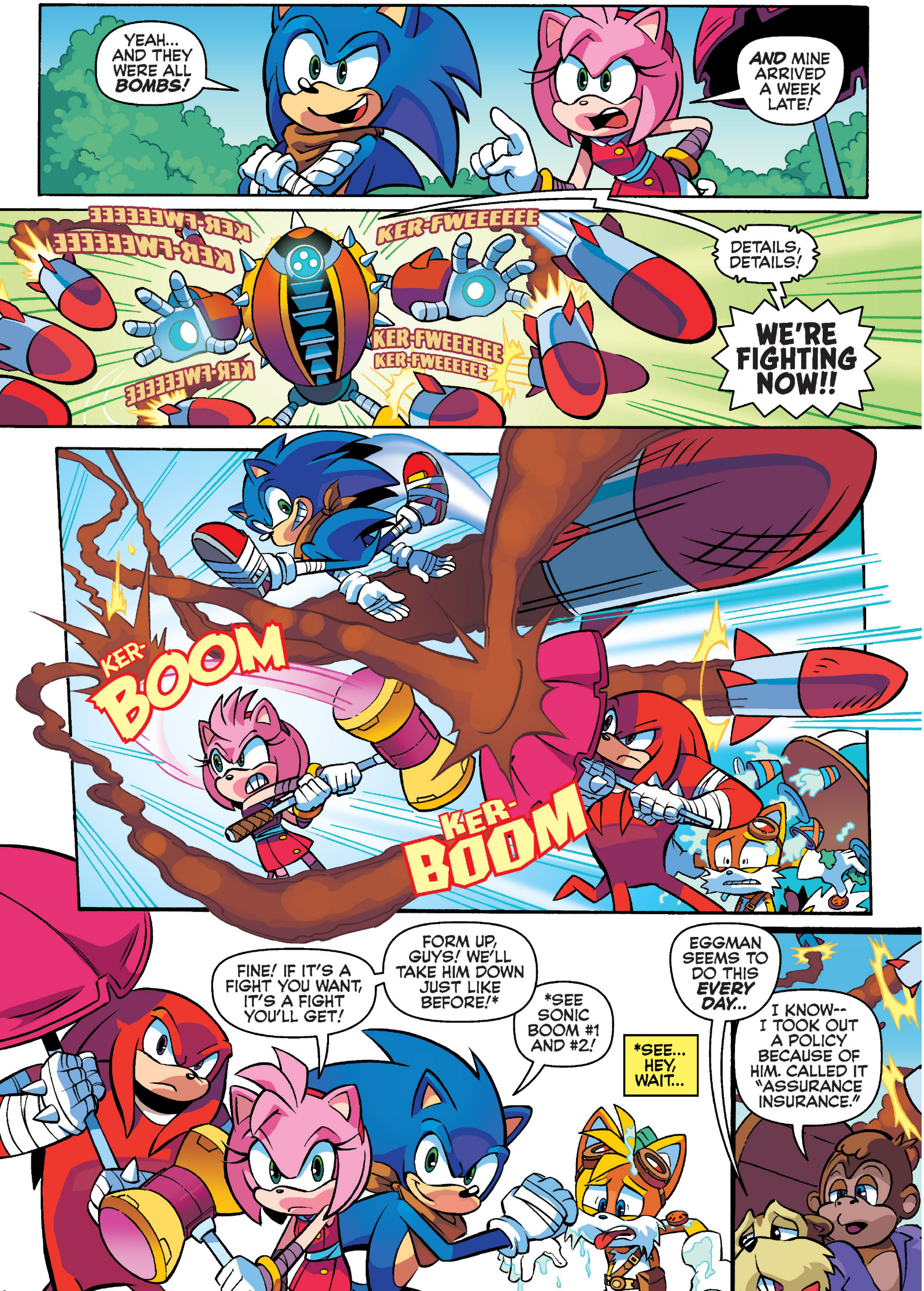


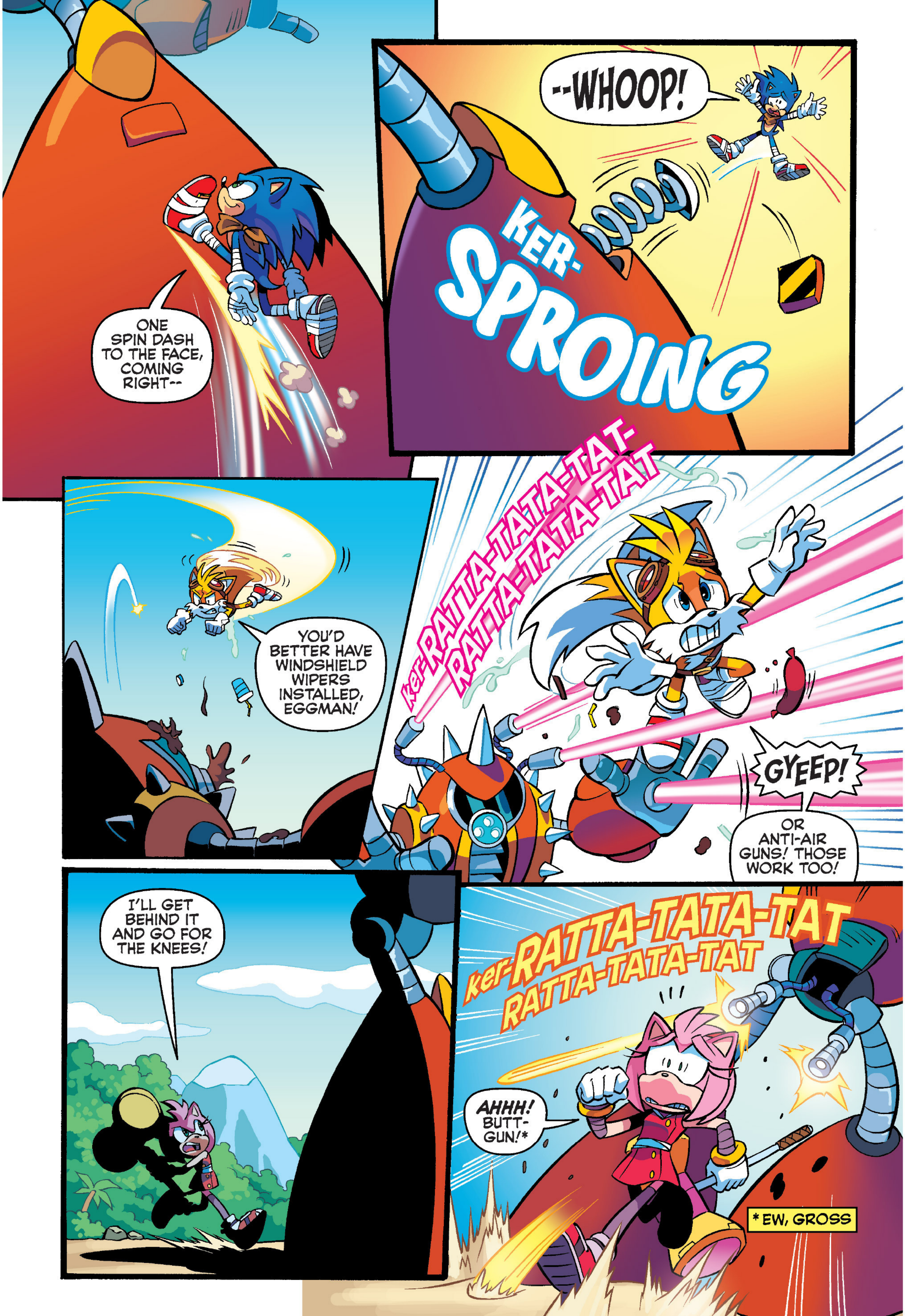
SONIC™! TAILS™! KNUCKLES™! AMY™!
THIS IS IT! THE FINAL STRAW!

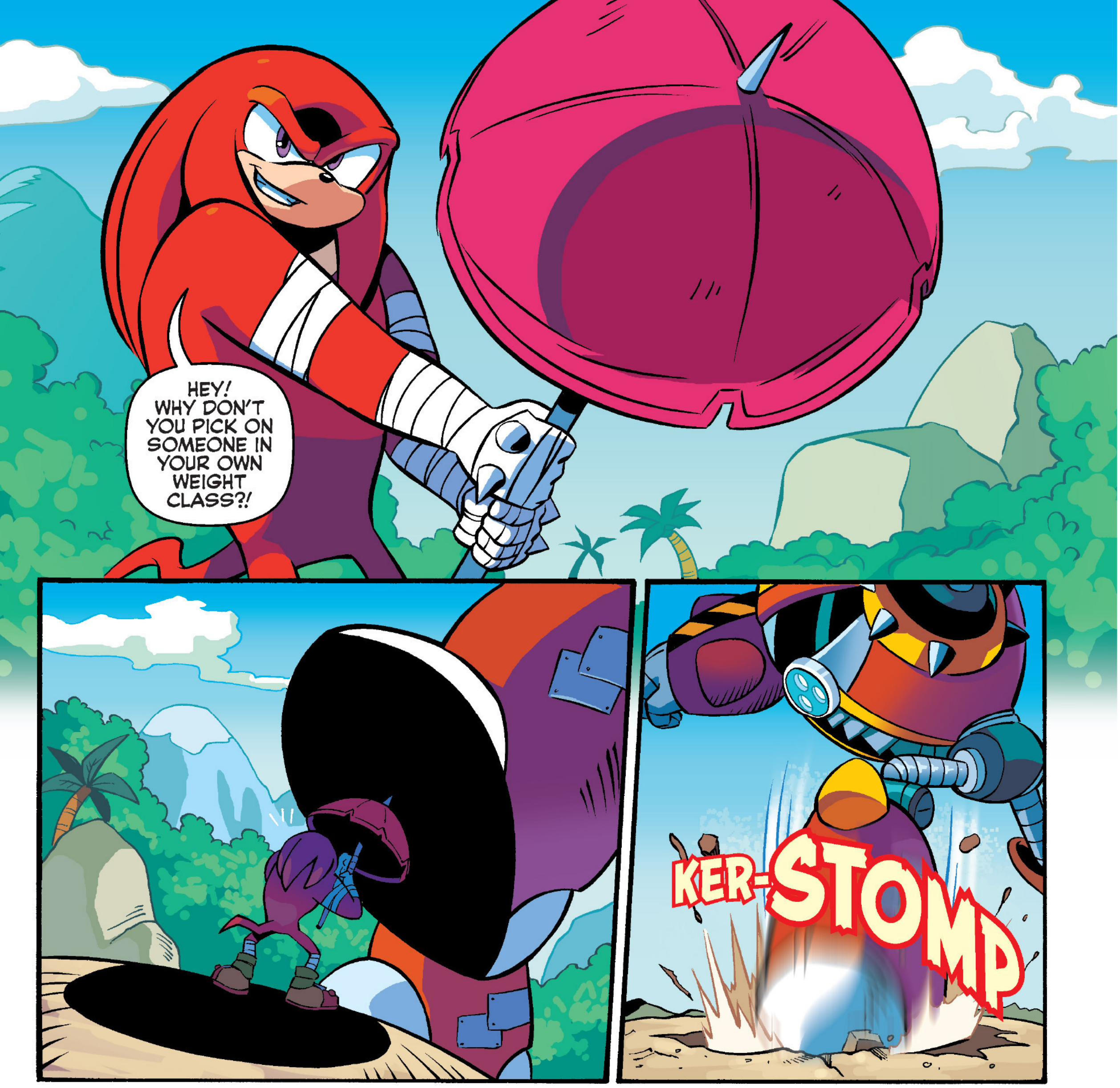
TODAY'S CHEF : IAN FLYNN
YOUR SERVERS: RYAN JAMPOLE & JENNIFER HERNANDEZ
CATCH OF THE DAY: RICK BRYANT
ON TAP: MATT HERMS
HOUSE SPECIAL: JACK MORELLI

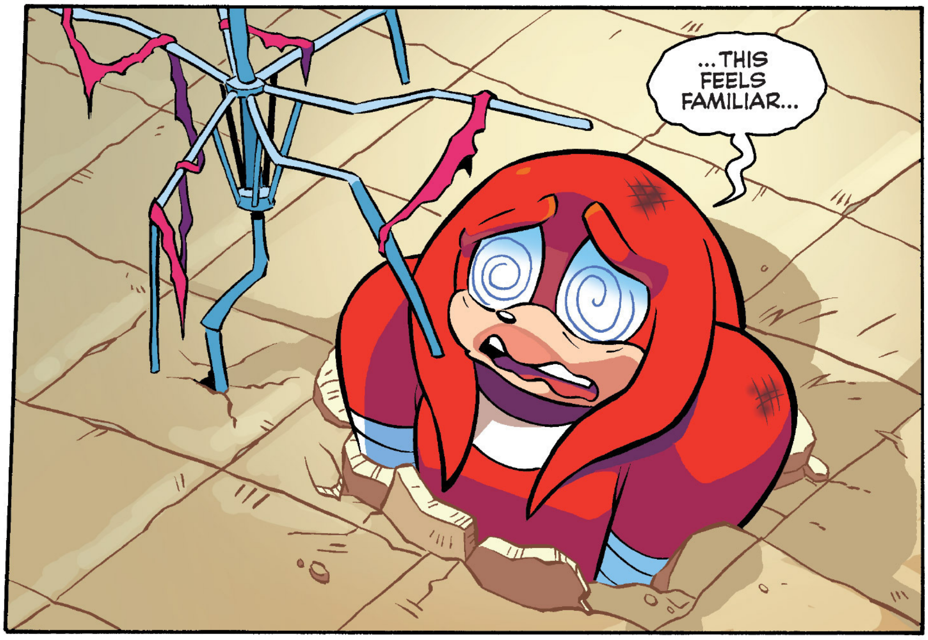
TRY THE: VINCENT LOVALLO
WITH A SIDE OF: PAUL KAMINSKI
SERVED RARE: VICTOR GORELICK
RATED FOUR STARS: MIKE PELLERITO
THE LOCATION RUN BY: JON GOLDWATER
SPECIAL THANKS TO: TYLER HAM, ANTHONY GACCIONE and the CHARACTER BUSINESS and LICENSING DEPARTMENT of SEGA CORPORATION

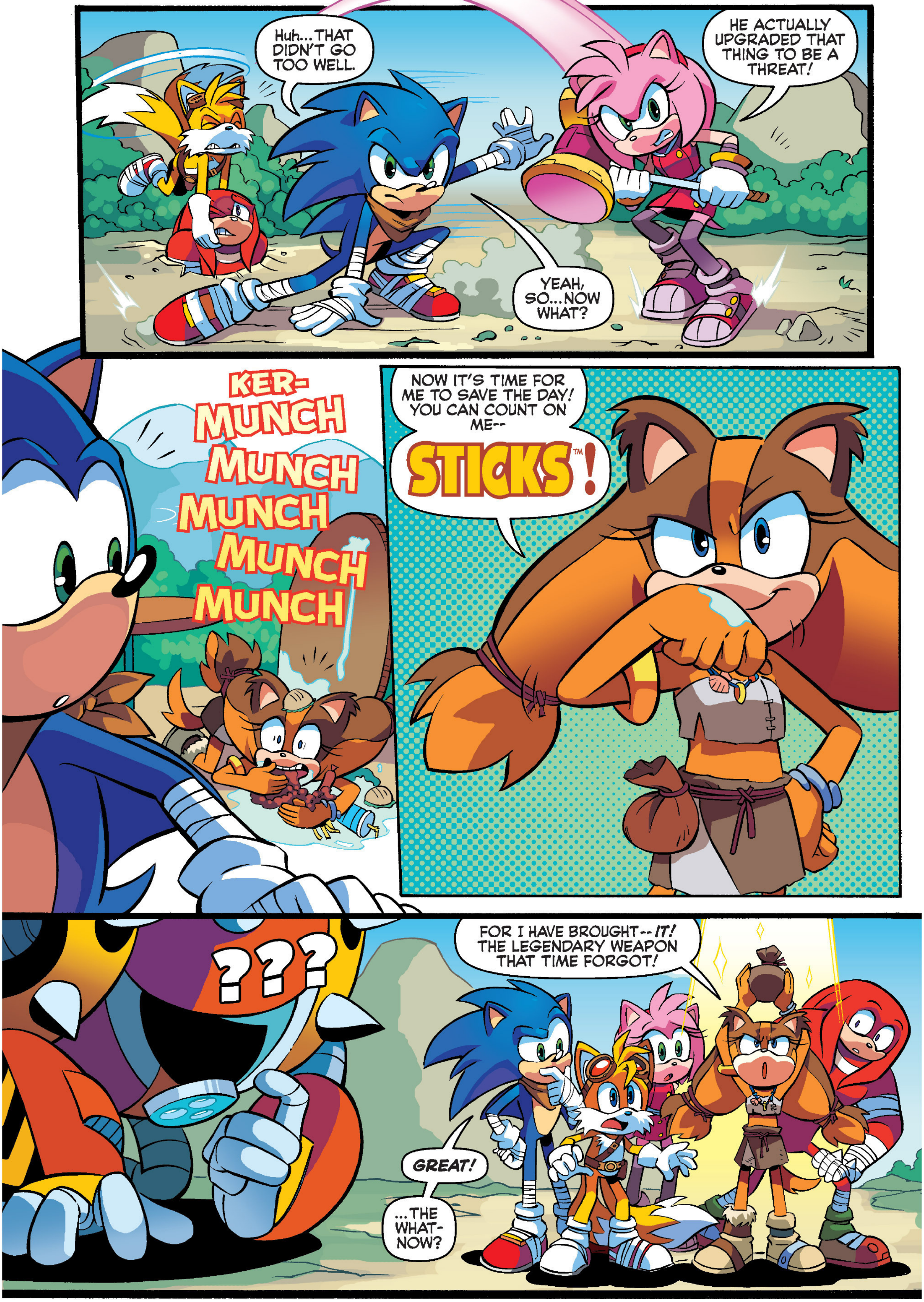

I'VE UPGRADED MY BIG BOY MECH ***THREE TIMES NOW!**** WE WERE ***SUPPOSED*** TO HAVE OUR CLIMACTIC BATTLE ON THE BEACH AN HOUR AGO!
BUT YOU LEFT ME STANDING ON THE SHORE LIKE A ***CHUMP!***
*BIG BOY V1.0 DEBUTED IN SB#1**
**WHAT? YOU THOUGHT YOU WERE SAFE FROM THESE? HAHAHAHAHA...
Oh...YEAH, WE HAD THAT RUNNING THEME GOING FOR THIS STORY ARC, DIDN'T WE?
SORRY, EGGMAN, WE TOTALLY FORGOT.
THEY... FORGOT...?
HOW COULD YOU BE SO INCONSIDERATE??! YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE THE HEROES!!
I EVEN SENT YOU ALL BIRTHDAY CARDS!!

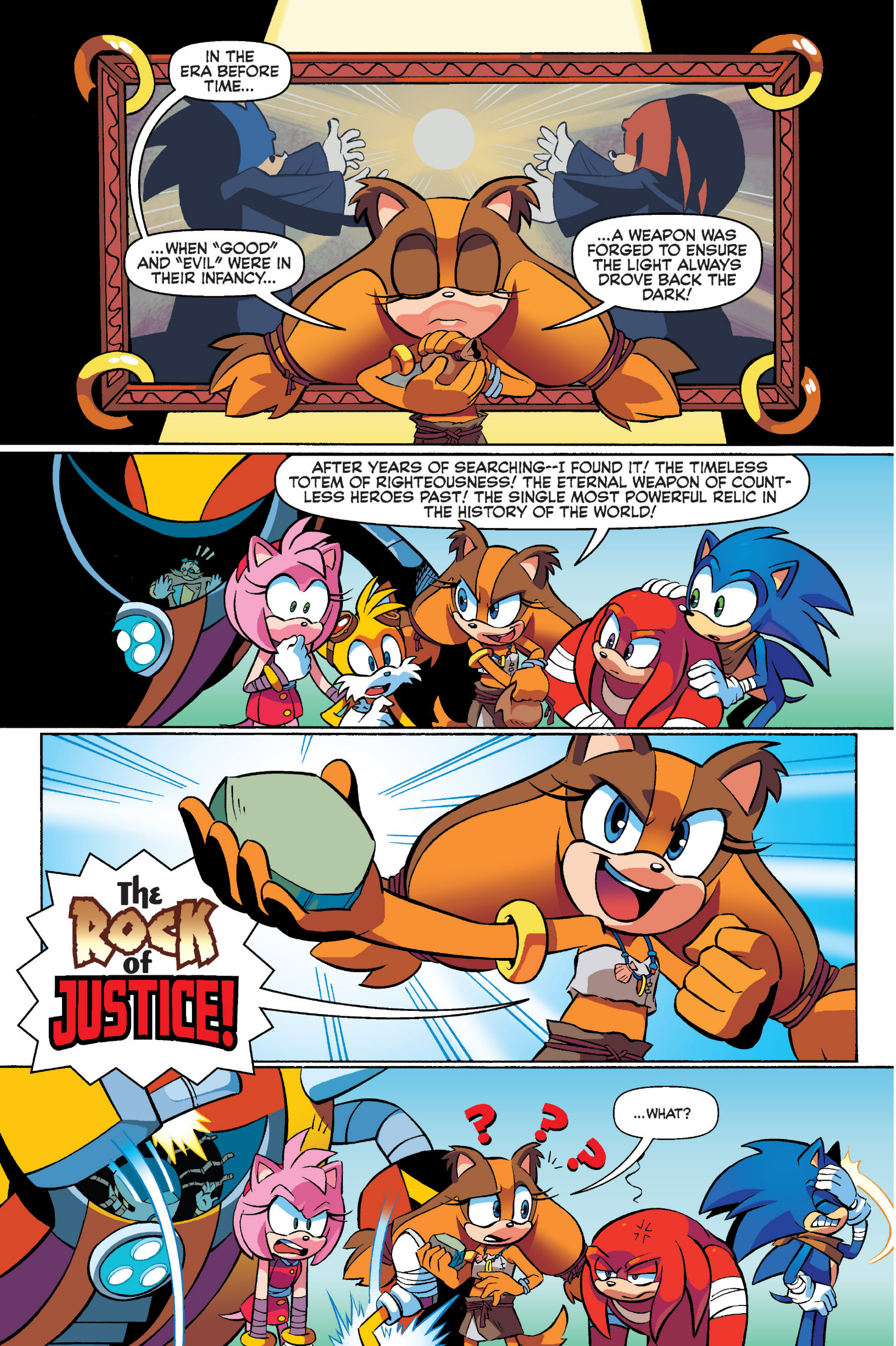

YEAH... AND THEY WERE ALL *BOMBS!*
AND MINE ARRIVED A WEEK LATE!
KER-FWEEEEEE
KER-FWEEEEEE
KER-FWEEEEEE
DETAILS, DETAILS!
WE'RE FIGHTING NOW!!
KER-FWEEEEEE
KER-FWEEEEEE
KER-FWEEEEEE
KER-BOOM
KER-BOOM
FINE! IF IT'S A FIGHT YOU WANT, IT'S A FIGHT YOU'LL GET!
FORM UP, GUYS! WE'LL TAKE HIM DOWN JUST LIKE BEFORE!*
*SEE SONIC BOOM #1 AND #2!
*SEE... HEY, WAIT...
EGGMAN SEEMS TO DO THIS *EVERY DAY...*
I KNOW-- I TOOK OUT A POLICY BECAUSE OF HIM. CALLED IT "ASSURANCE INSURANCE."

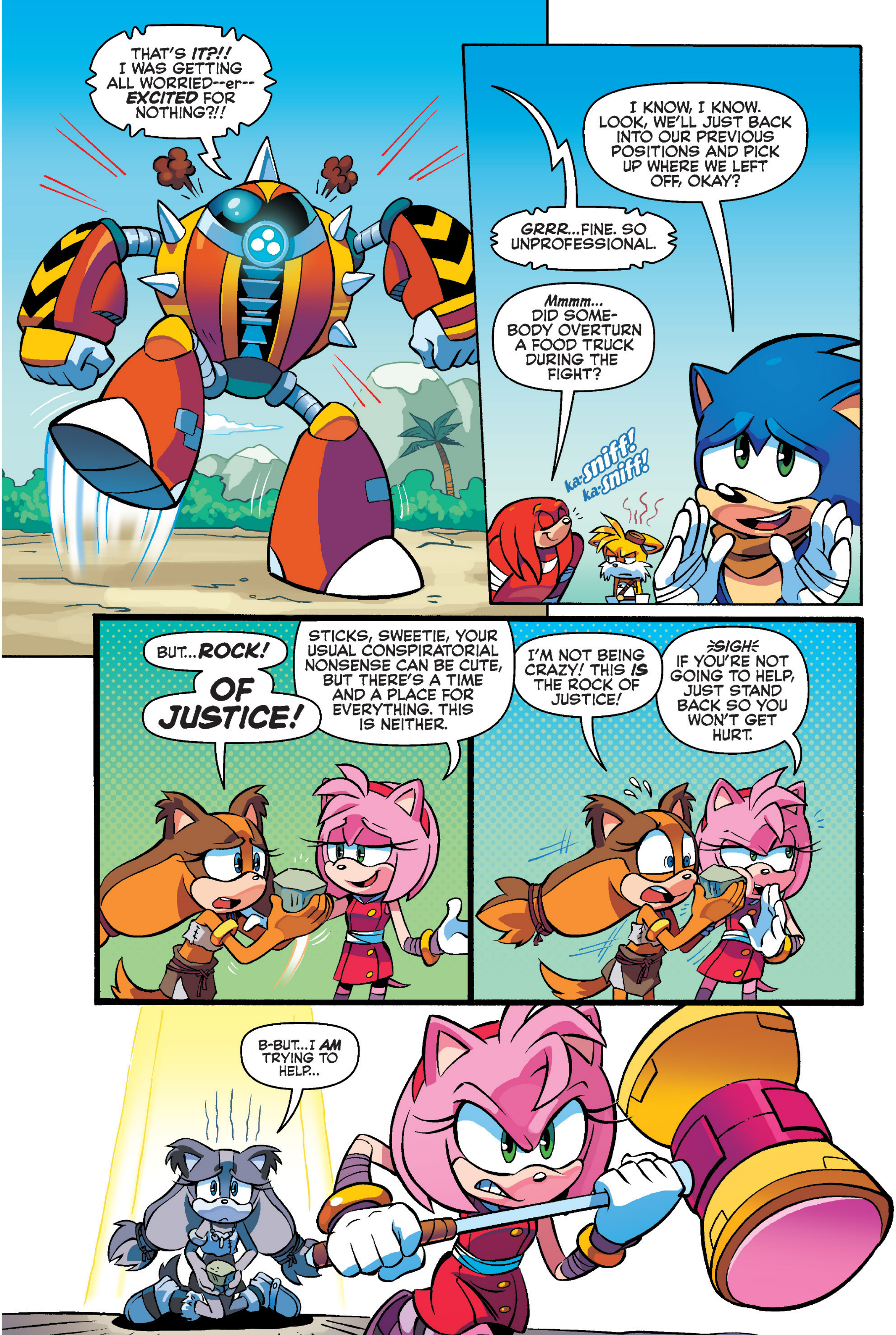

ONE SPIN DASH TO THE FACE, COMING RIGHT--
--WHOOP!
KER-SPROING
YOU'D BETTER HAVE WINDSHIELD WIPERS INSTALLED, EGGMAN!
ker-RATTA-TATA-TAT-RATTA-TATA-TAT
GYEEP!
OR ANTI-AIR GUNS! THOSE WORK TOO!
I'LL GET BEHIND IT AND GO FOR THE KNEES!
ker-RATTA-TATA-TAT RATTA-TATA-TAT
AHHH! BUTT-GUN!*
*EW, GROSS

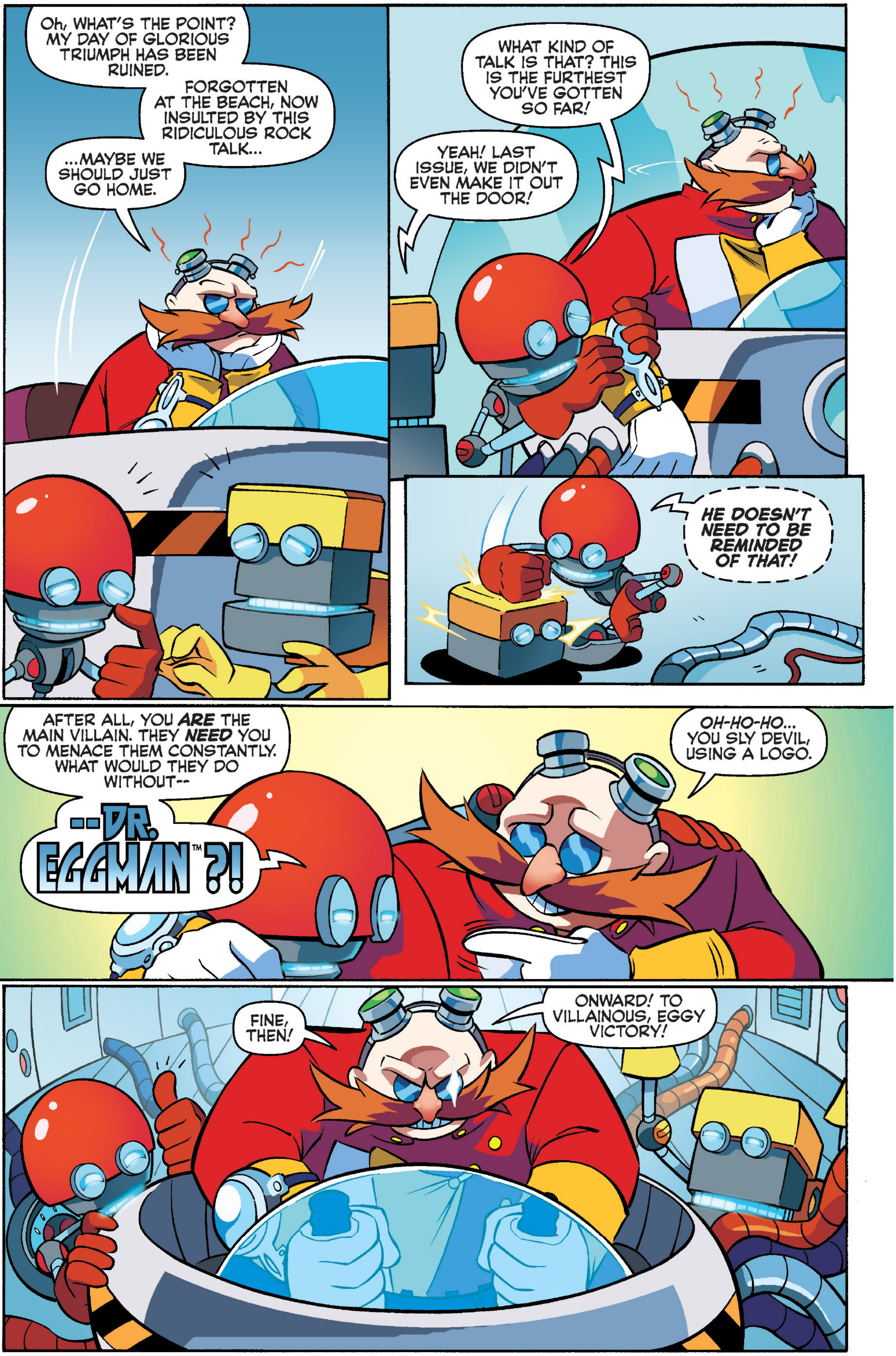

HEY! WHY DON'T YOU PICK ON SOMEONE IN YOUR OWN WEIGHT CLASS?!
KER-STOMP

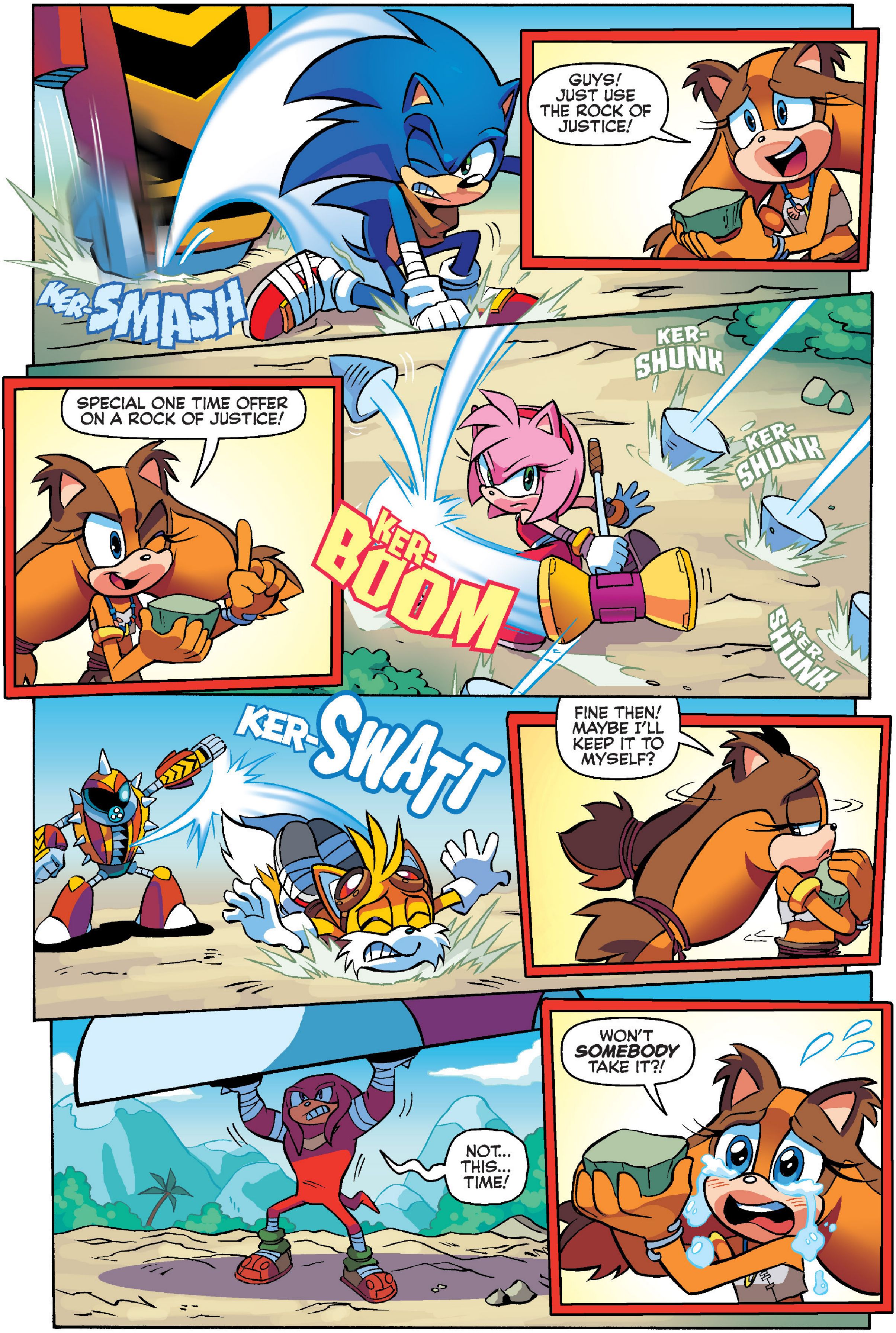

...THIS FEELS FAMILIAR...

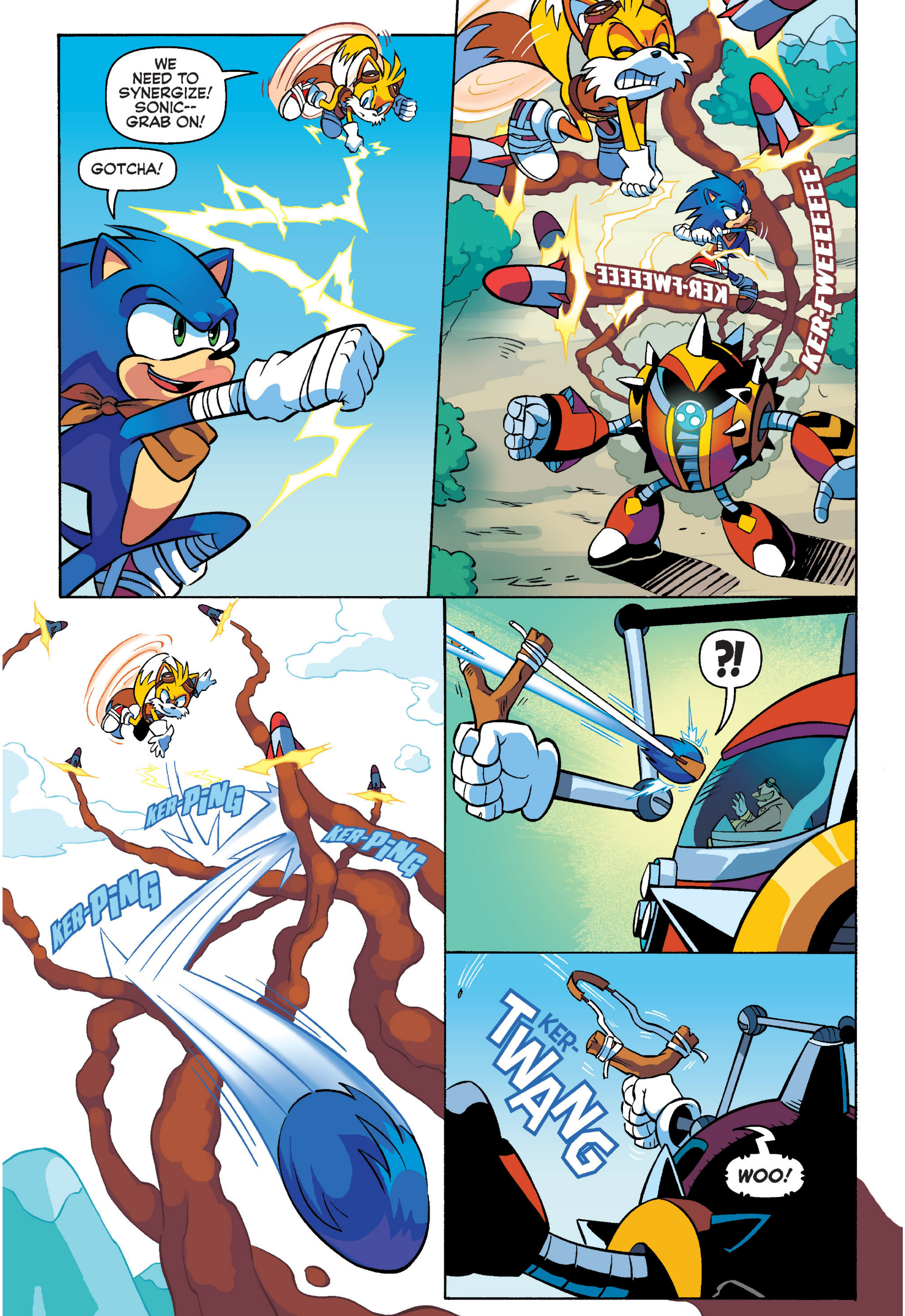

Huh... THAT DIDN'T GO TOO WELL.
HE ACTUALLY UPGRADED THAT THING TO BE A THREAT!
YEAH, SO... NOW WHAT?
KER-MUNCH MUNCH MUNCH MUNCH MUNCH
NOW IT'S TIME FOR ME TO SAVE THE DAY! YOU CAN COUNT ON ME--
STICKS™!
???
FOR I HAVE BROUGHT-- *IT!* THE LEGENDARY WEAPON THAT TIME FORGOT!
GREAT!
...THE WHAT-NOW?

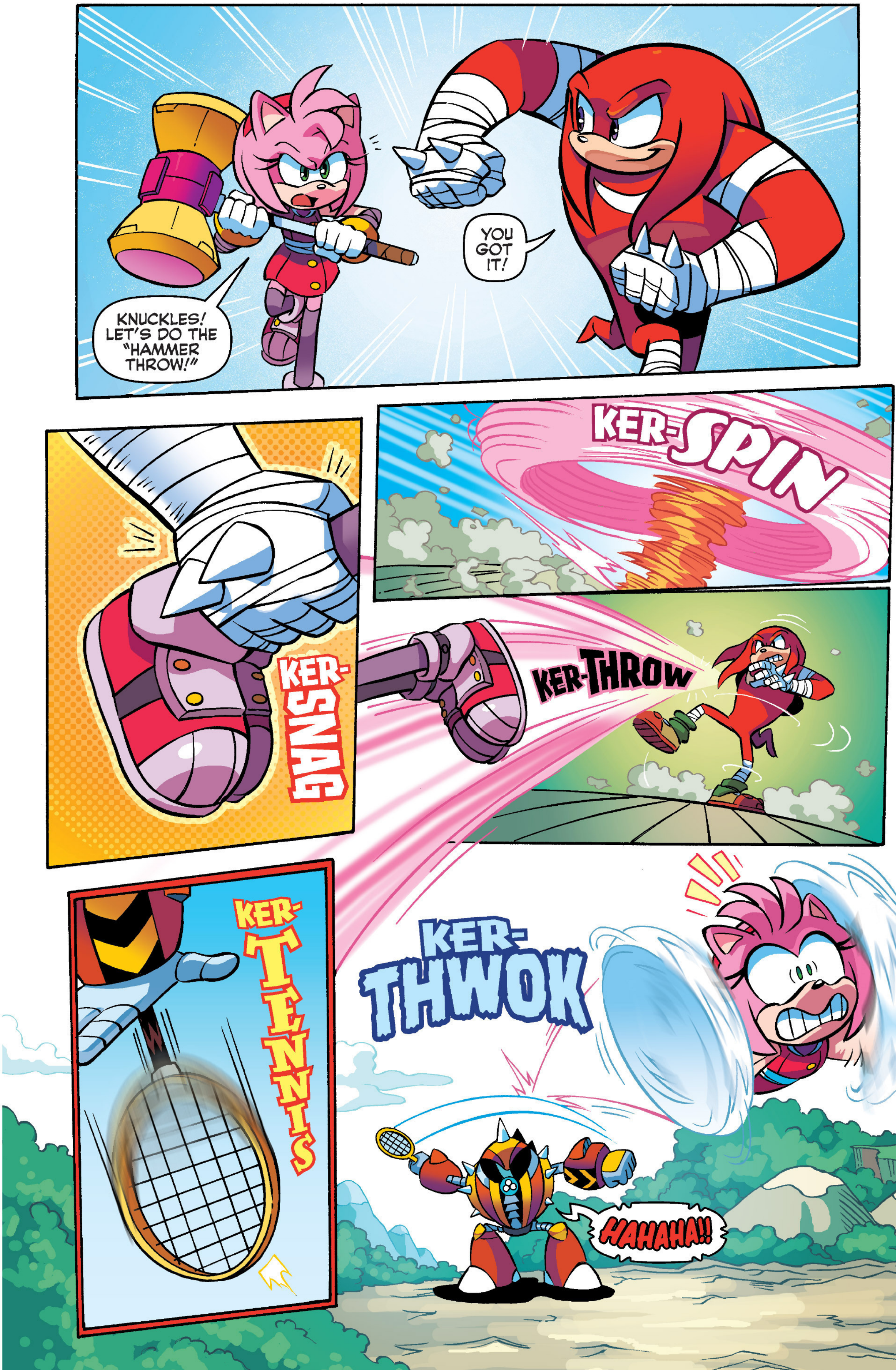

IN THE ERA BEFORE TIME...
...WHEN "GOOD" AND "EVIL" WERE IN THEIR INFANCY...
...A WEAPON WAS FORGED TO ENSURE THE LIGHT ALWAYS DROVE BACK THE DARK!
AFTER YEARS OF SEARCHING--I FOUND IT! THE TIMELESS TOTEM OF RIGHTEOUSNESS! THE ETERNAL WEAPON OF COUNTLESS HEROES PAST! THE SINGLE MOST POWERFUL RELIC IN THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD!
The ROCK of JUSTICE!
? ? ?
...WHAT?

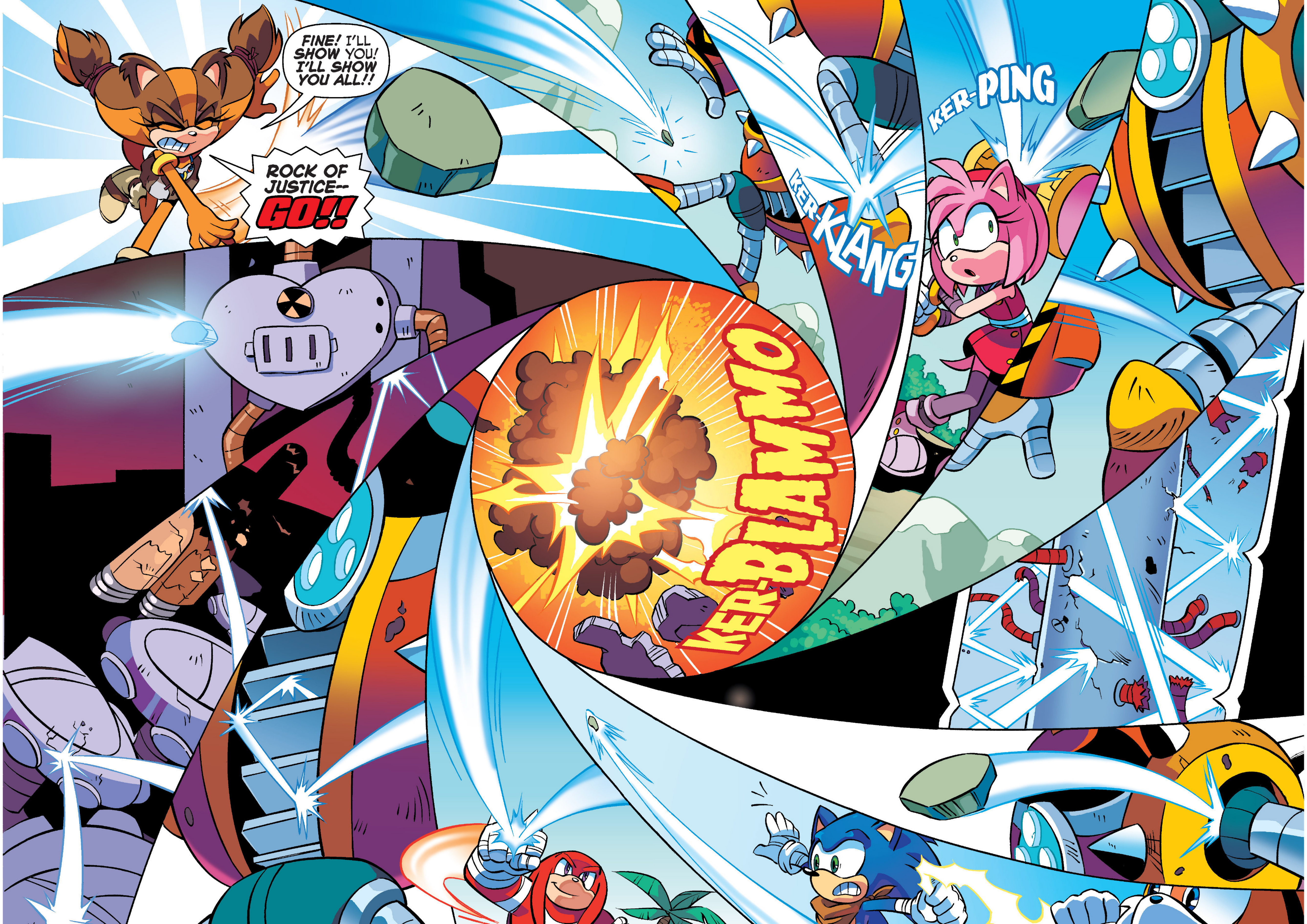

THAT'S *IT?!!* I WAS GETTING ALL WORRIED--er-- ***EXCITED*** FOR NOTHING?!!
I KNOW, I KNOW. LOOK, WE'LL JUST BACK INTO OUR PREVIOUS POSITIONS AND PICK UP WHERE WE LEFT OFF, OKAY?
GRRR...FINE. SO UNPROFESSIONAL.
Mmmm... DID SOMEBODY OVERTURN A FOOD TRUCK DURING THE FIGHT?
ka-sniff! ka-sniff!
BUT...***ROCK!*** ***OF JUSTICE!***
STICKS, SWEETIE, YOUR USUAL CONSPIRATORIAL NONSENSE CAN BE CUTE, BUT THERE'S A TIME AND A PLACE FOR EVERYTHING. THIS IS NEITHER.
I'M NOT BEING CRAZY! THIS ***IS*** THE ROCK OF JUSTICE!
SIGH IF YOU'RE NOT GOING TO HELP, JUST STAND BACK SO YOU WON'T GET HURT.
B-BUT...I ***AM*** TRYING TO HELP...

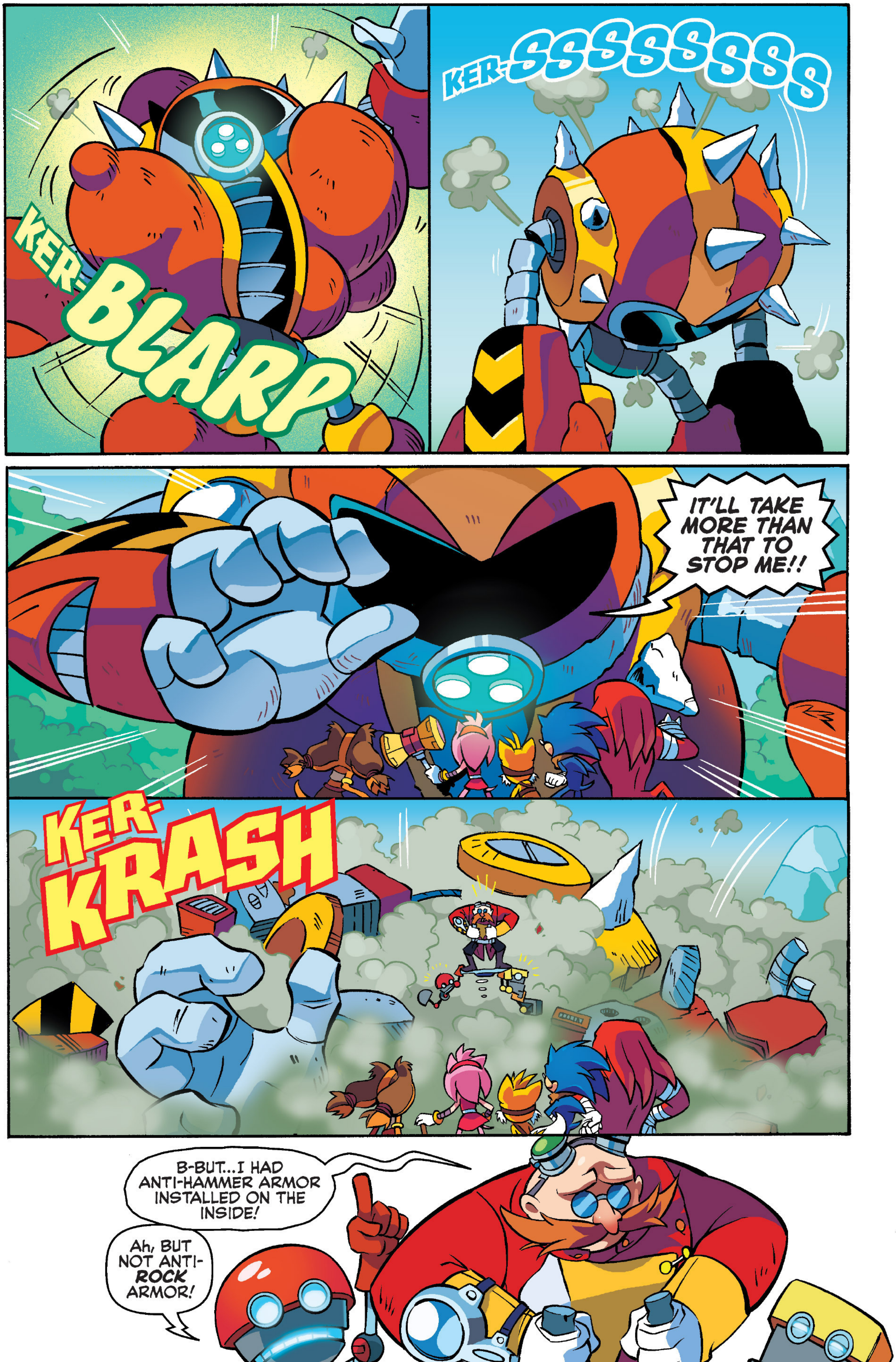

Oh, WHAT'S THE POINT? MY DAY OF GLORIOUS TRIUMPH HAS BEEN RUINED.
FORGOTTEN AT THE BEACH, NOW INSULTED BY THIS RIDICULOUS ROCK TALK...
...MAYBE WE SHOULD JUST GO HOME.
WHAT KIND OF TALK IS THAT? THIS IS THE FURTHEST YOU'VE GOTTEN SO FAR!
YEAH! LAST ISSUE, WE DIDN'T EVEN MAKE IT OUT THE DOOR!
HE DOESN'T NEED TO BE REMINDED OF THAT!
AFTER ALL, YOU ***ARE*** THE MAIN VILLAIN. THEY ***NEED*** YOU TO MENACE THEM CONSTANTLY. WHAT WOULD THEY DO WITHOUT--
--DR. EGGMAN™?!
OH-HO-HO... YOU SLY DEVIL, USING A LOGO.
FINE, THEN!
ONWARD! TO VILLAINOUS, EGGY VICTORY!

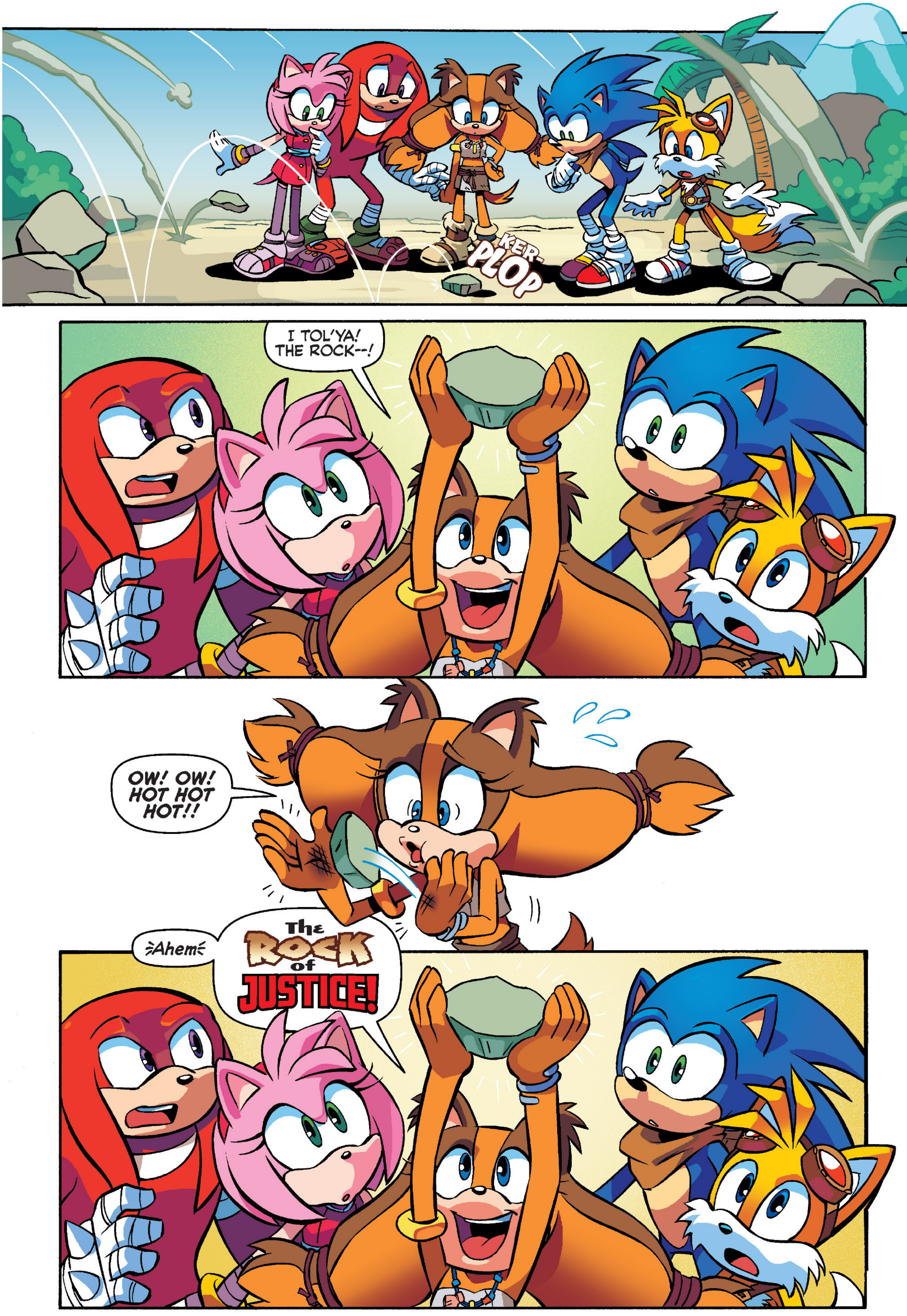

KER-SMASH
GUYS! JUST USE THE ROCK OF JUSTICE!
KER-SHUNK
SPECIAL ONE TIME OFFER ON A ROCK OF JUSTICE!
KER-BOOM
KER-SHUNK
KER-SHUNK
KER-SWATT
FINE THEN! MAYBE I'LL KEEP IT TO MYSELF?
NOT... THIS... TIME!
WON'T **SOMEBODY** TAKE IT?!

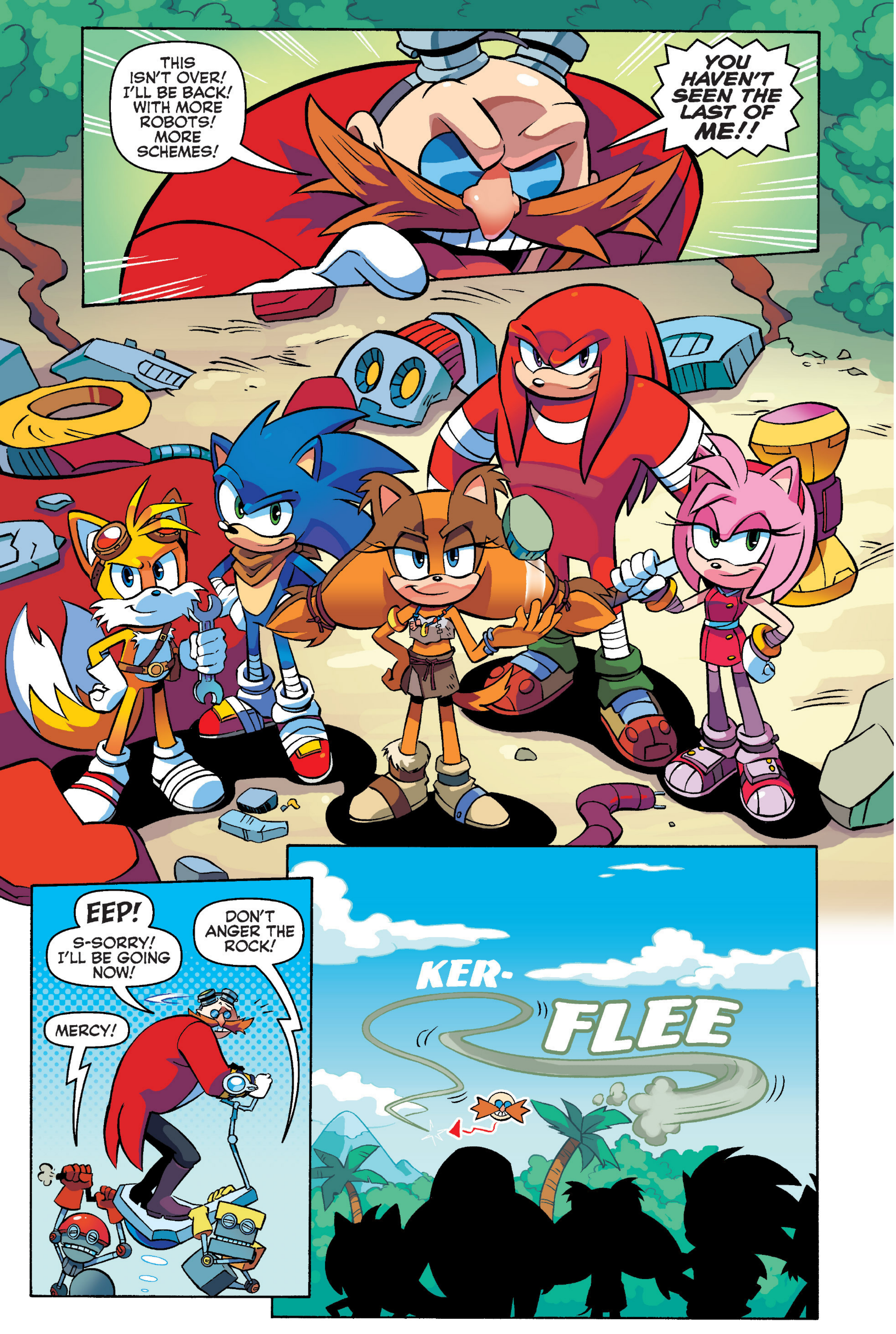

WE NEED TO SYNERGIZE! SONIC-- GRAB ON!
GOTCHA!
KER-FWEEEEE
KER-FWEEEEEE
KER-PING
KER-PING
KER-PING
?!
KER-TWANG
WOO!

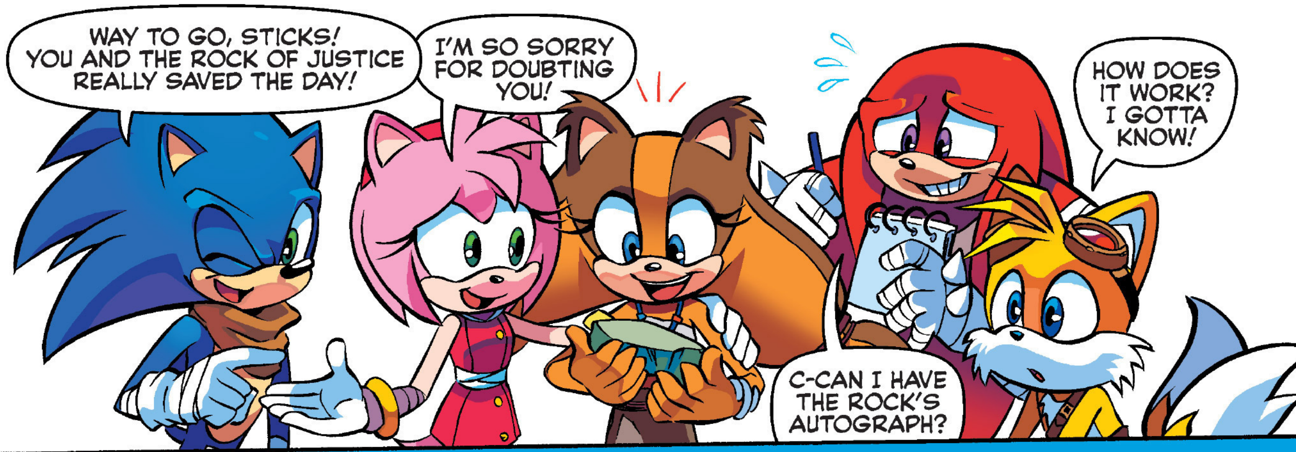

KNUCKLES! LET'S DO THE "HAMMER THROW!"
YOU GOT IT!
KER-SNAG
KER-SPIN
KER-THROW
KER-TENNIS
KER-THWOK
HAHAHA!!

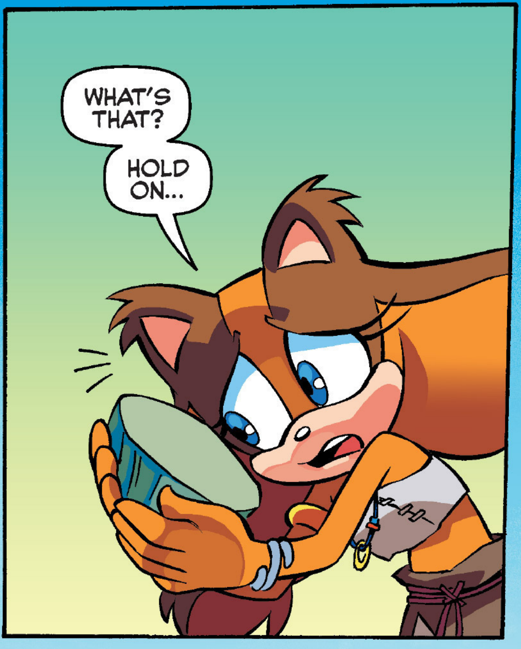

FINE! I'LL SHOW YOU! I'LL SHOW YOU ALL!!
ROCK OF JUSTICE-- GO!!
KER-PING
KER-KLANG
KER-BLAMMO

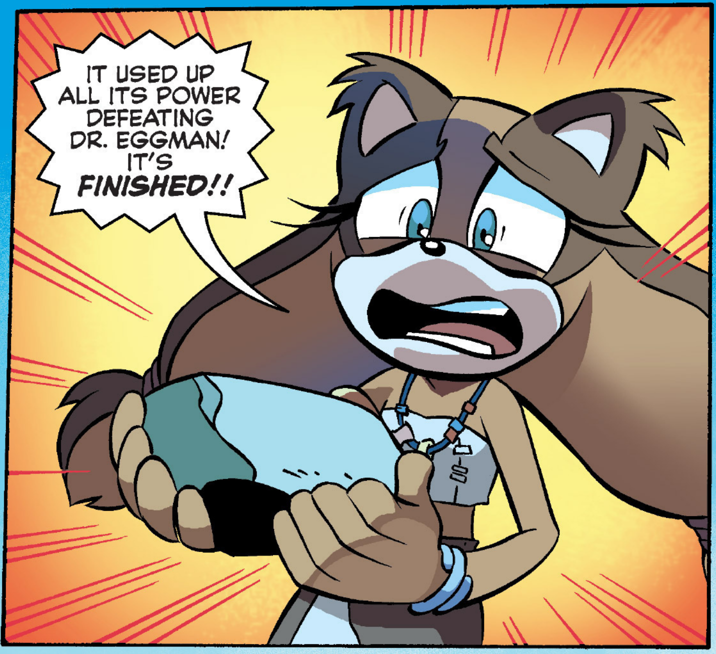

KER-BLARP
KER-SSSSSSSSS
IT'LL TAKE MORE THAN THAT TO STOP ME!!
KER-KRASH
B-BUT...I HAD ANTI-HAMMER ARMOR INSTALLED ON THE INSIDE!
Ah, BUT NOT ANTI-*ROCK* ARMOR!

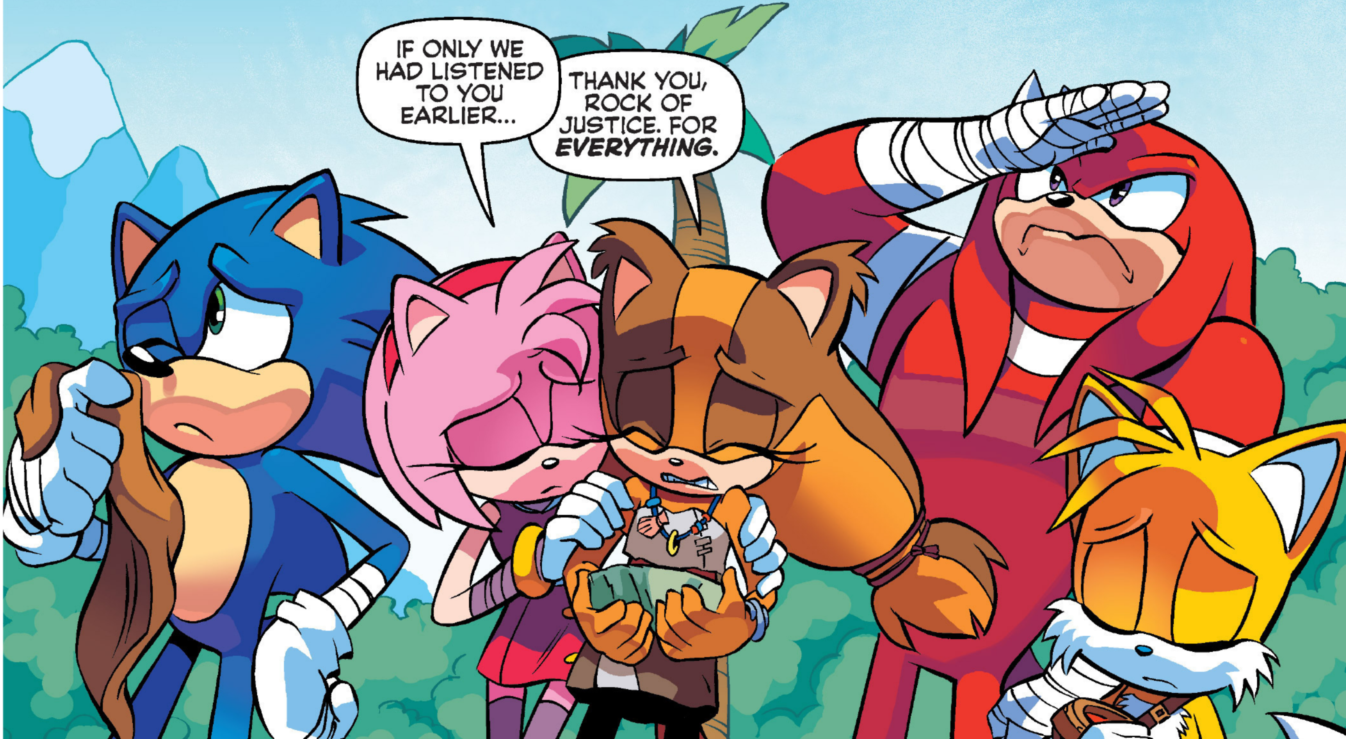

KER-PLOP
I TOL'YA! THE ROCK--!
OW! OW! HOT HOT HOT!!
Ahem
The ROCK of JUSTICE!

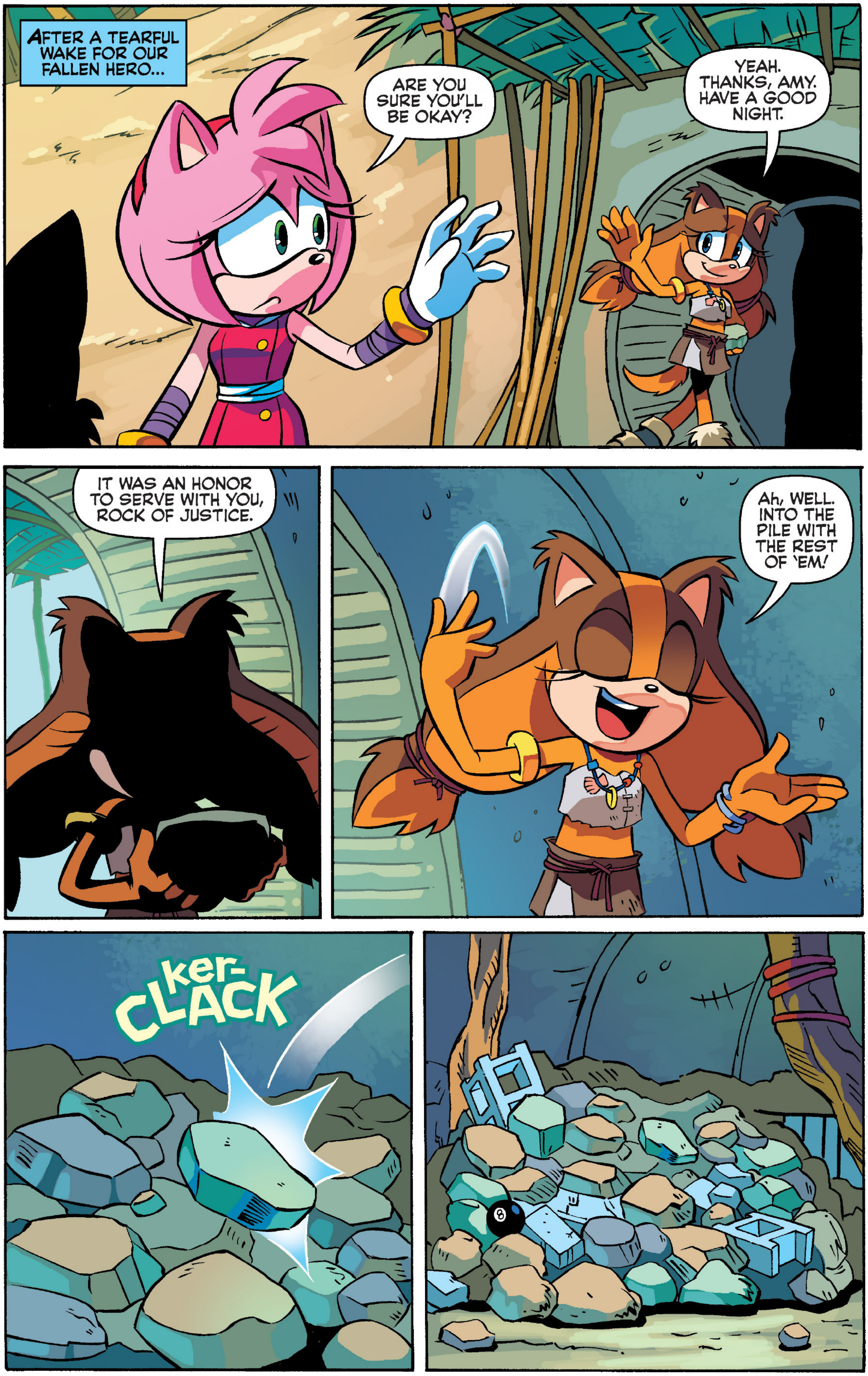

THIS ISN'T OVER! I'LL BE BACK! WITH MORE ROBOTS! MORE SCHEMES!
YOU HAVEN'T SEEN THE LAST OF ME!!
EEP!
S-SORRY! I'LL BE GOING NOW!
DON'T ANGER THE ROCK!
MERCY!
KER-FLEE

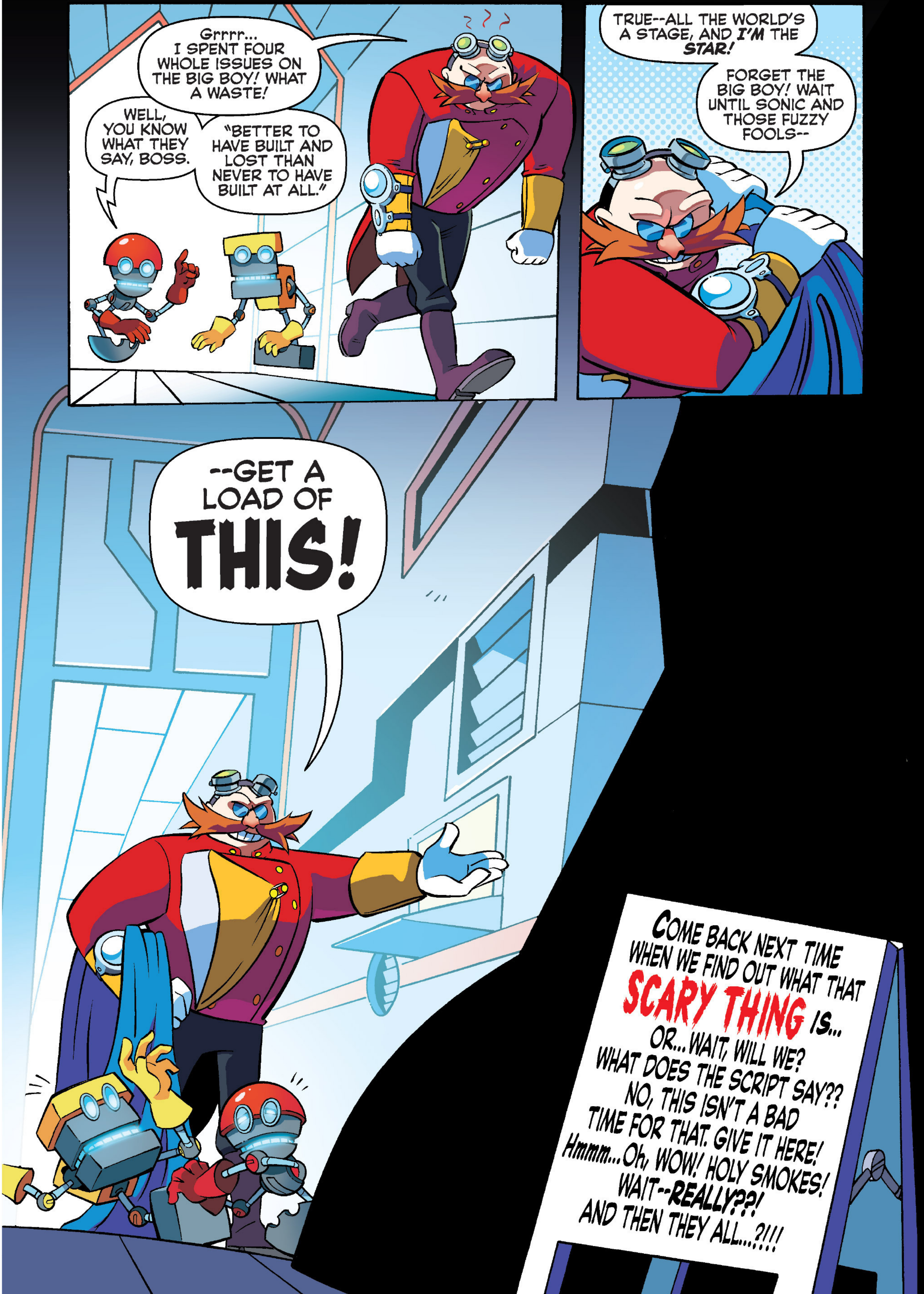

WAY TO GO, STICKS! YOU AND THE ROCK OF JUSTICE REALLY SAVED THE DAY!
I'M SO SORRY FOR DOUBTING YOU!
C-CAN I HAVE THE ROCK'S AUTOGRAPH?
HOW DOES IT WORK? I GOTTA KNOW!


WHAT'S THAT?
HOLD ON...


IT USED UP ALL ITS POWER DEFEATING DR. EGGMAN! IT'S *FINISHED!!*


IF ONLY WE HAD LISTENED TO YOU EARLIER...
THANK YOU, ROCK OF JUSTICE. FOR *EVERYTHING*.


AFTER A TEARFUL WAKE FOR OUR FALLEN HERO...
ARE YOU SURE YOU'LL BE OKAY?
YEAH. THANKS, AMY. HAVE A GOOD NIGHT.
IT WAS AN HONOR TO SERVE WITH YOU, ROCK OF JUSTICE.
Ah, WELL. INTO THE PILE WITH THE REST OF 'EM!
ker-CLACK

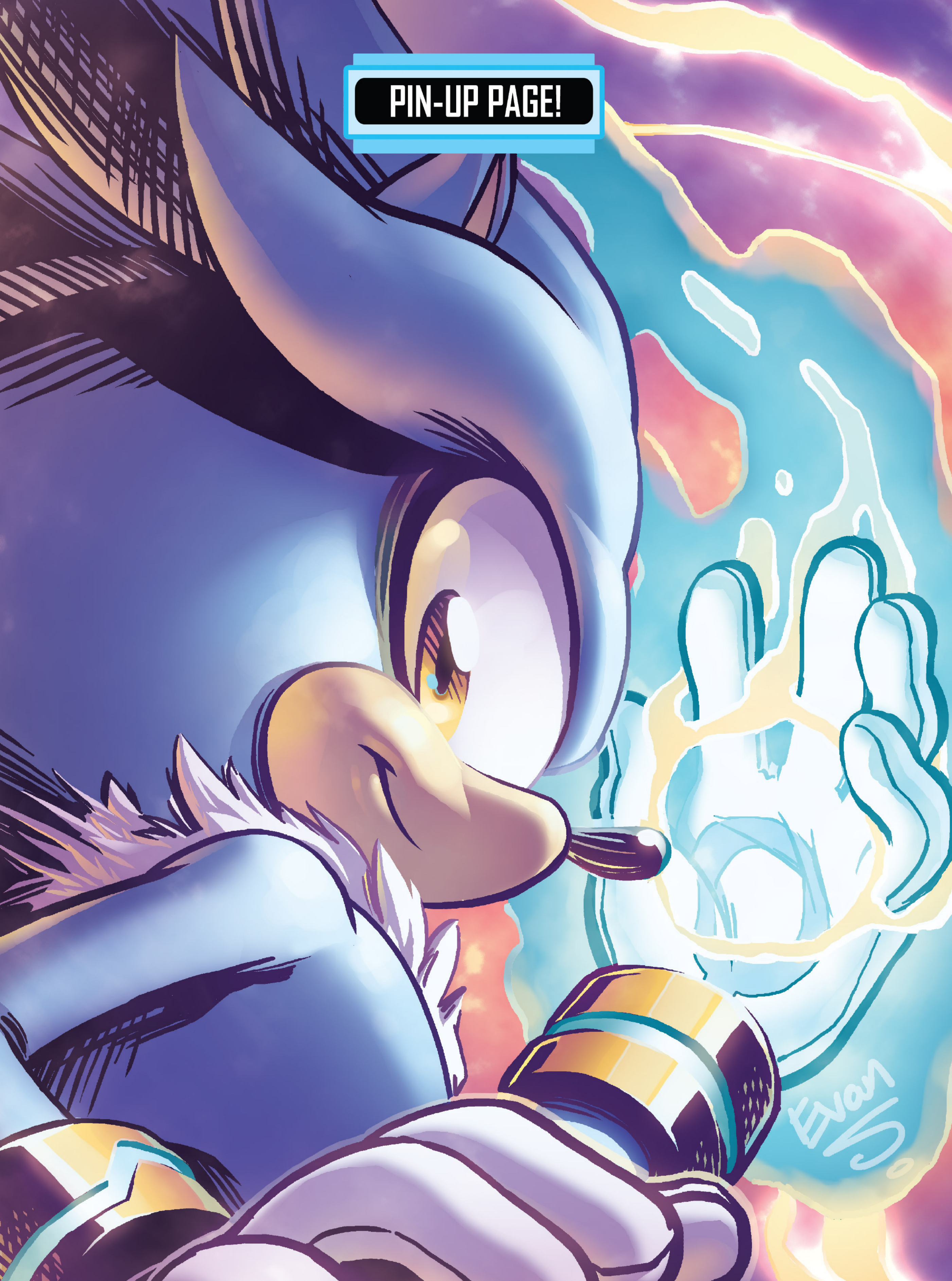

Grrrr... I SPENT FOUR WHOLE ISSUES ON THE BIG BOY! WHAT A WASTE!
WELL, YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY, BOSS.
"BETTER TO HAVE BUILT AND LOST THAN NEVER TO HAVE BUILT AT ALL."
TRUE--ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE, AND I'M THE STAR!
FORGET THE BIG BOY! WAIT UNTIL SONIC AND THOSE FUZZY FOOLS--
--GET A LOAD OF THIS!
COME BACK NEXT TIME WHEN WE FIND OUT WHAT THAT SCARY THING IS... OR...WAIT, WILL WE? WHAT DOES THE SCRIPT SAY?? NO, THIS ISN'T A BAD TIME FOR THAT. GIVE IT HERE! Hmmm...Oh, WOW! HOLY SMOKES! WAIT--REALLY??! AND THEN THEY ALL...?!!!

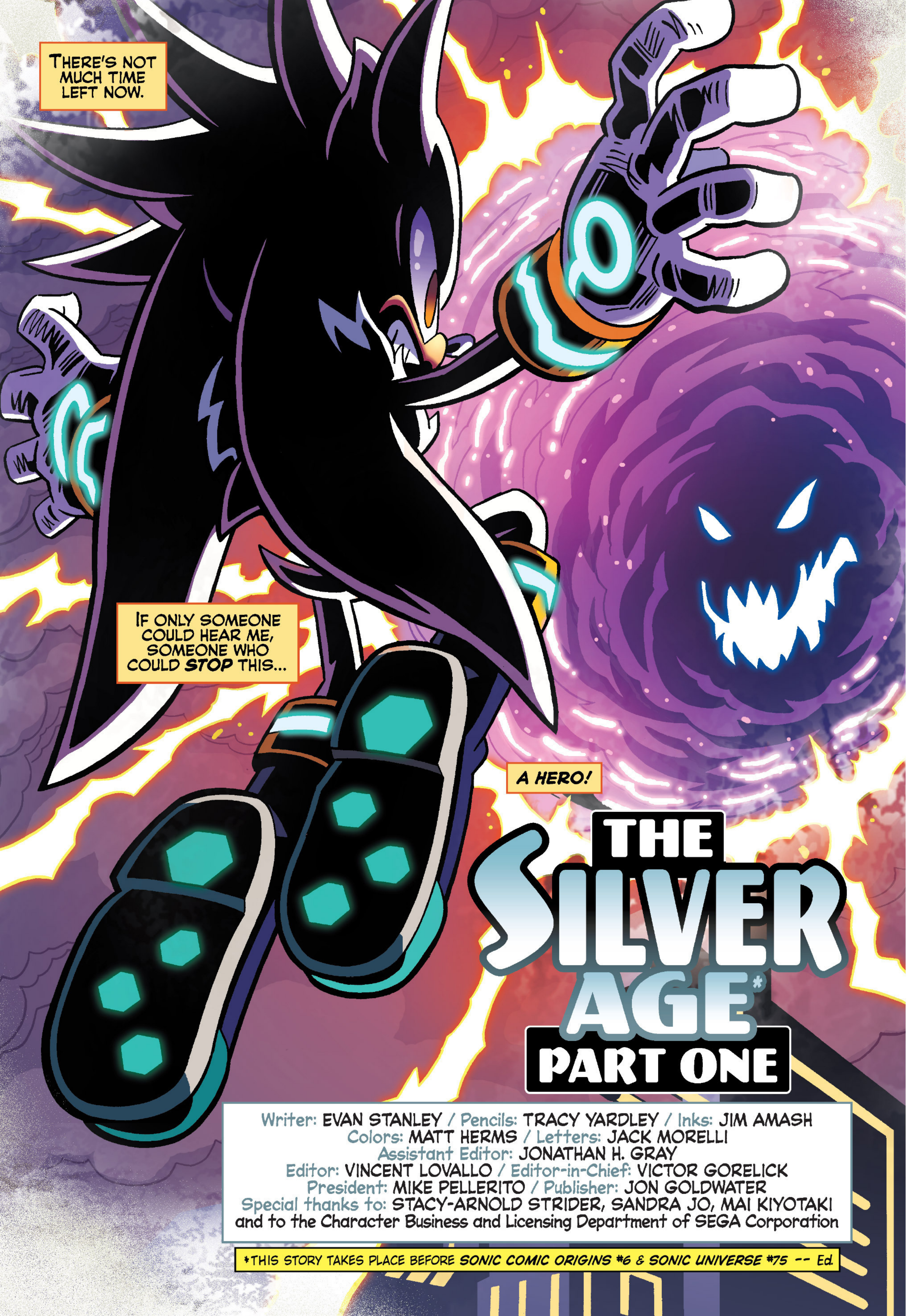
PIN-UP PAGE!

Diane Skelly
+ Rick Bryant
+ Steve

PIN-UP PAGE!

PIN-UP PAGE!




THERE'S NOT MUCH TIME LEFT NOW.
IF ONLY SOMEONE COULD HEAR ME, SOMEONE WHO COULD *STOP* THIS...
A HERO!

THE SILVER AGE*

PART ONE

Writer: EVAN STANLEY / Pencils: TRACY YARDLEY / Inks: JIM AMASH
Colors: MATT HERMS / Letters: JACK MORELLI
Assistant Editor: JONATHAN H. GRAY
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President: MIKE PELLERITO / Publisher: JON GOLDWATER
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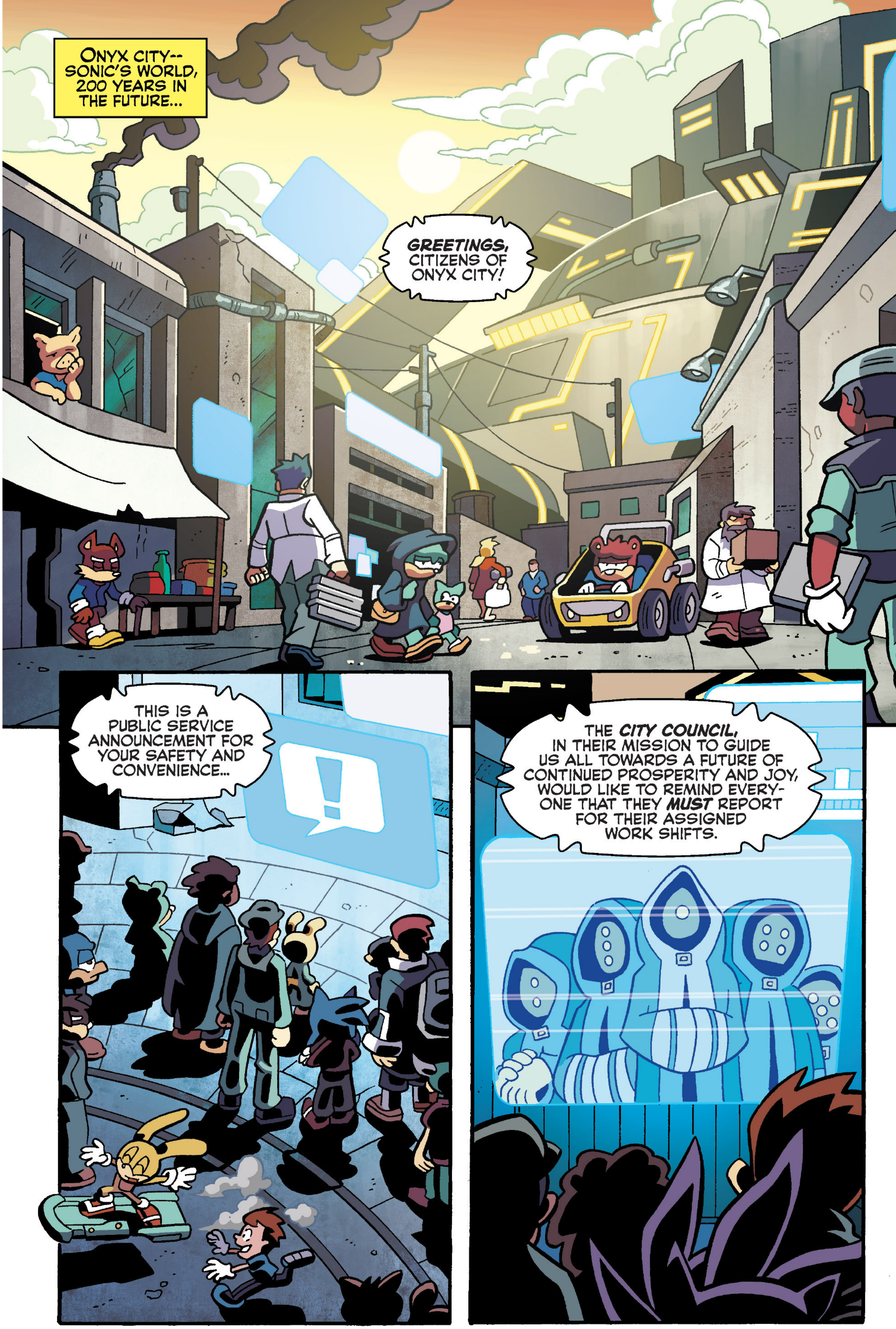
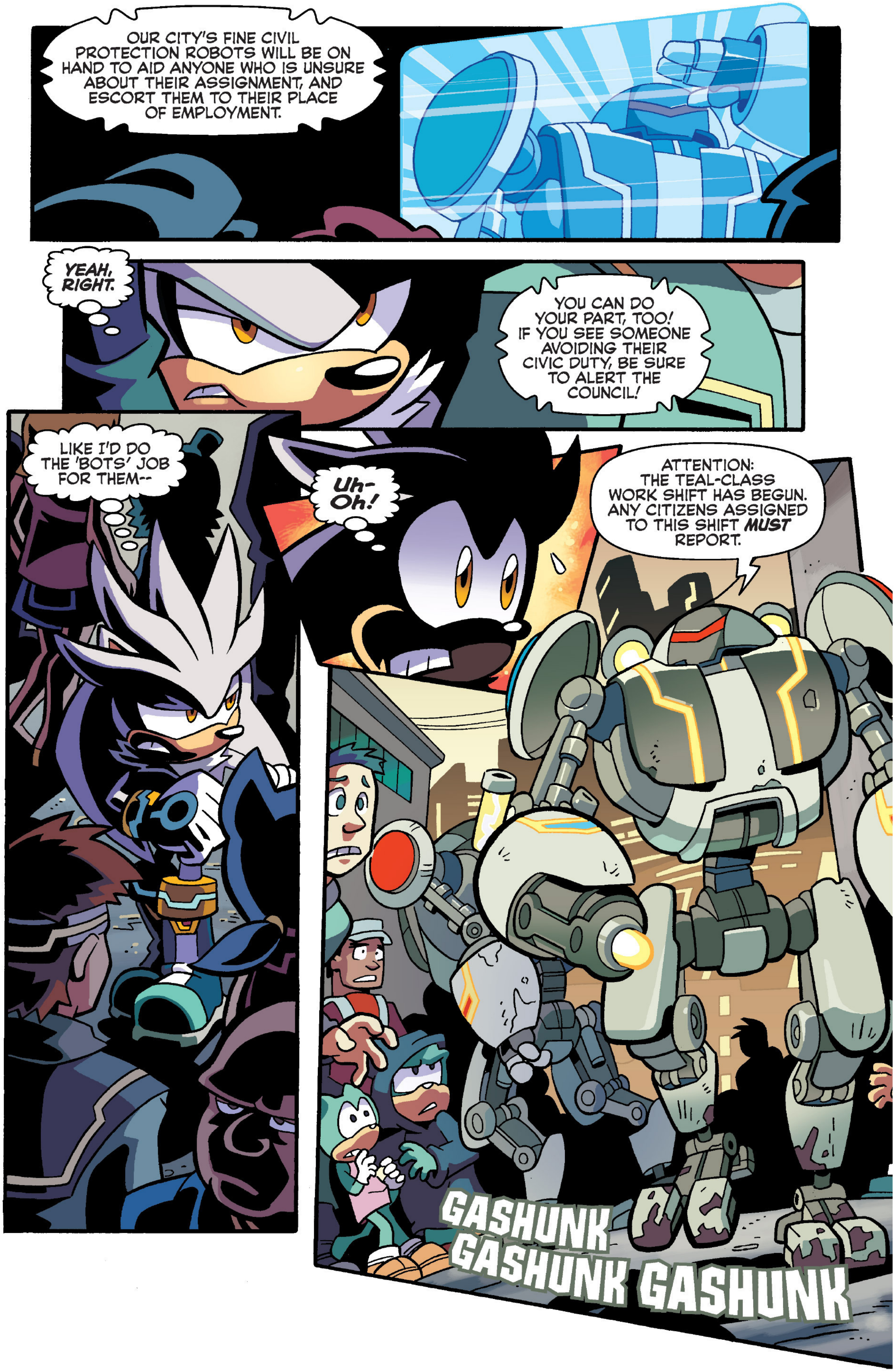
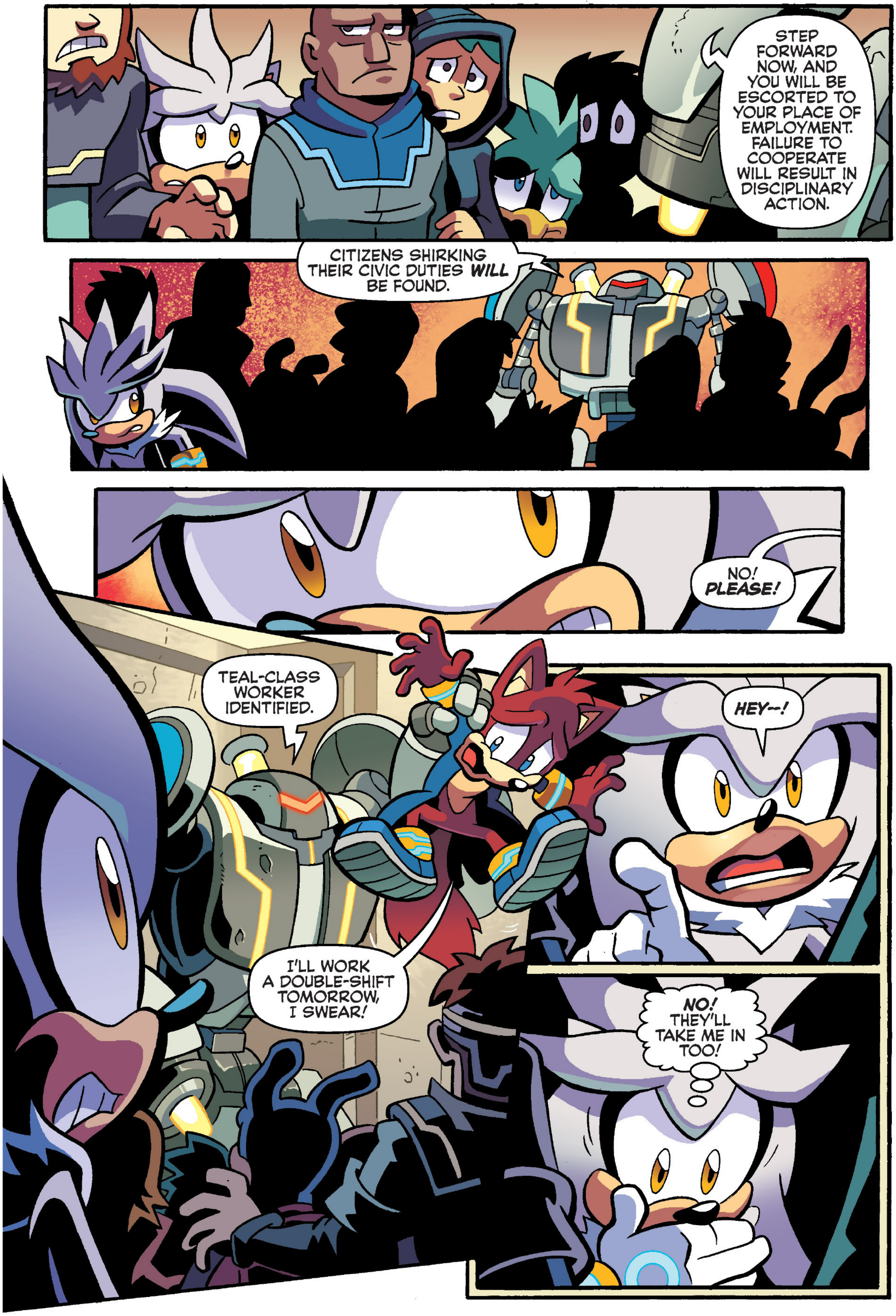
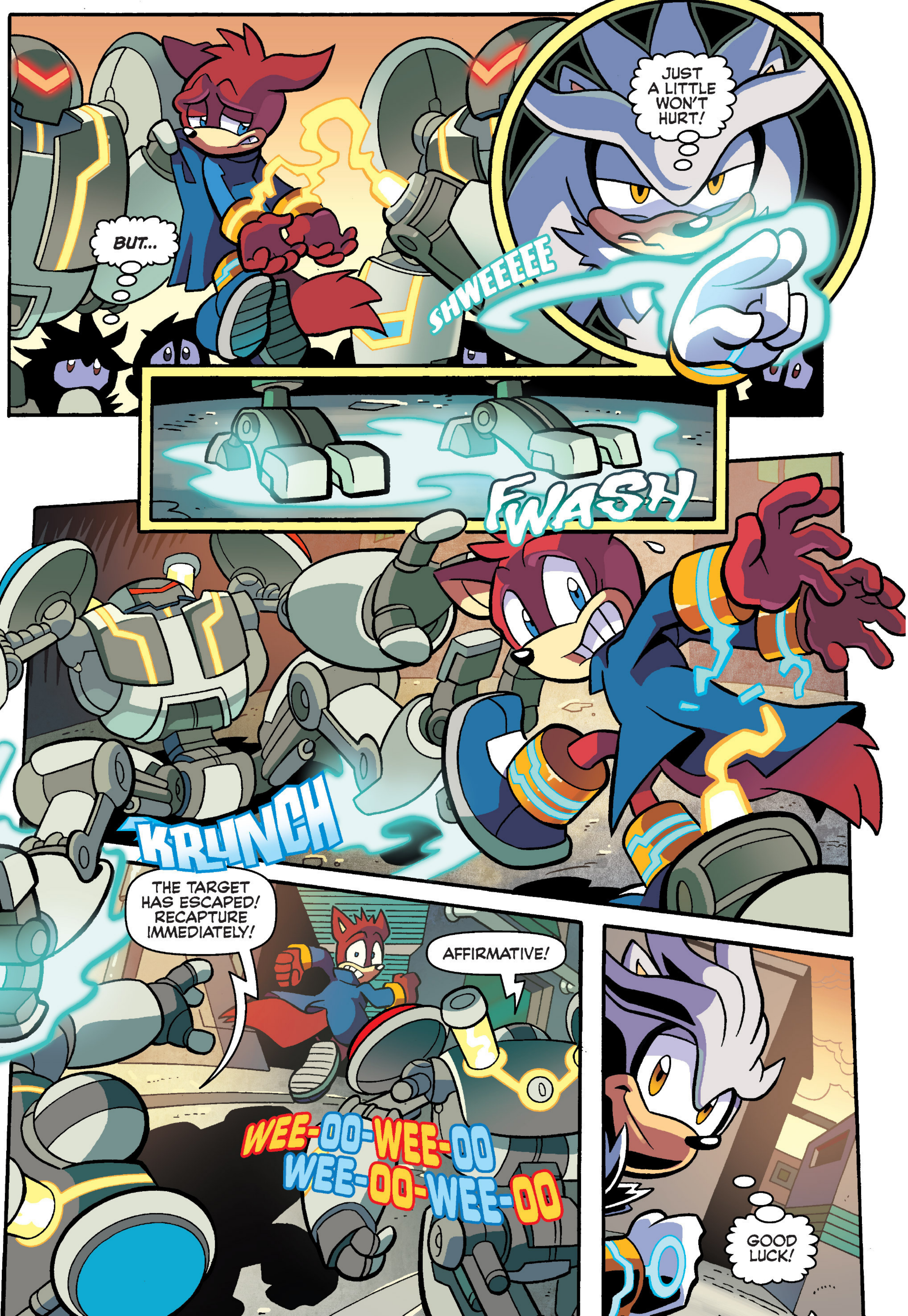
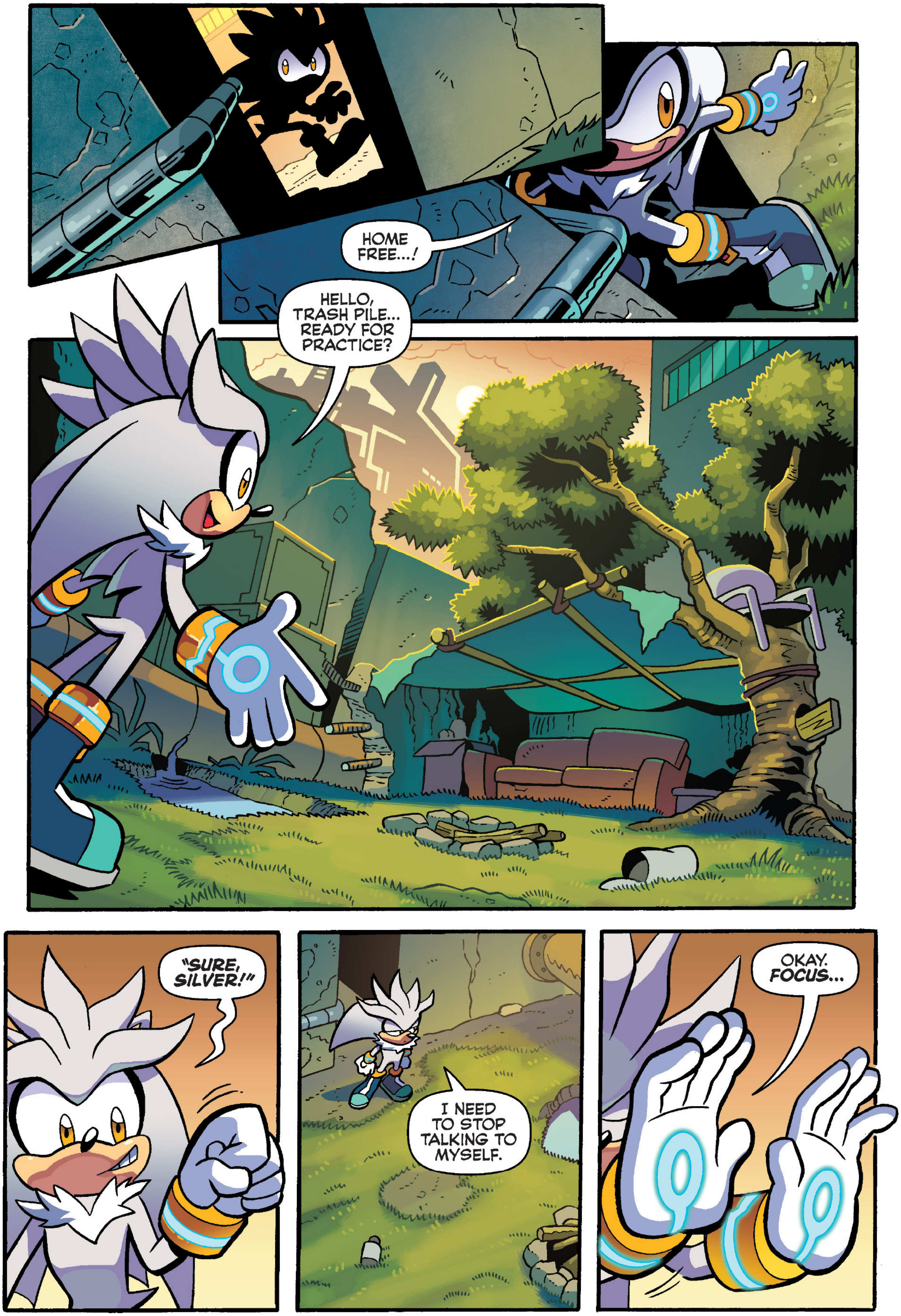
*THIS STORY TAKES PLACE BEFORE ***SONIC COMIC ORIGINS* #6** & ***SONIC UNIVERSE* #75** -- Ed.

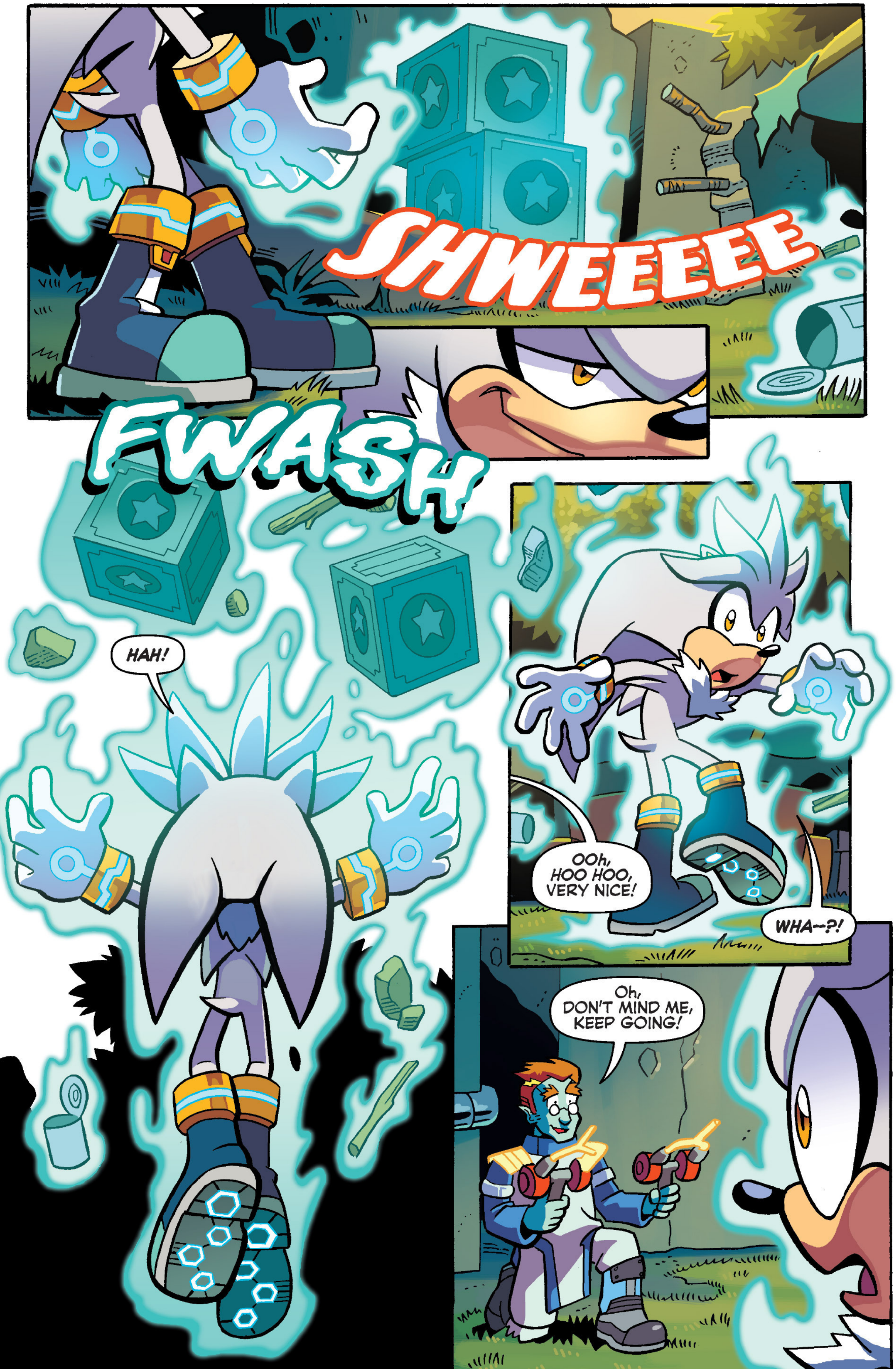

ONYX CITY-- SONIC'S WORLD, 200 YEARS IN THE FUTURE...
GREETINGS, CITIZENS OF ONYX CITY!
THIS IS A PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT FOR YOUR SAFETY AND CONVENIENCE...
!
THE ***CITY COUNCIL,*** IN THEIR MISSION TO GUIDE US ALL TOWARDS A FUTURE OF CONTINUED PROSPERITY AND JOY, WOULD LIKE TO REMIND EVERYONE THAT THEY ***MUST*** REPORT FOR THEIR ASSIGNED WORK SHIFTS.

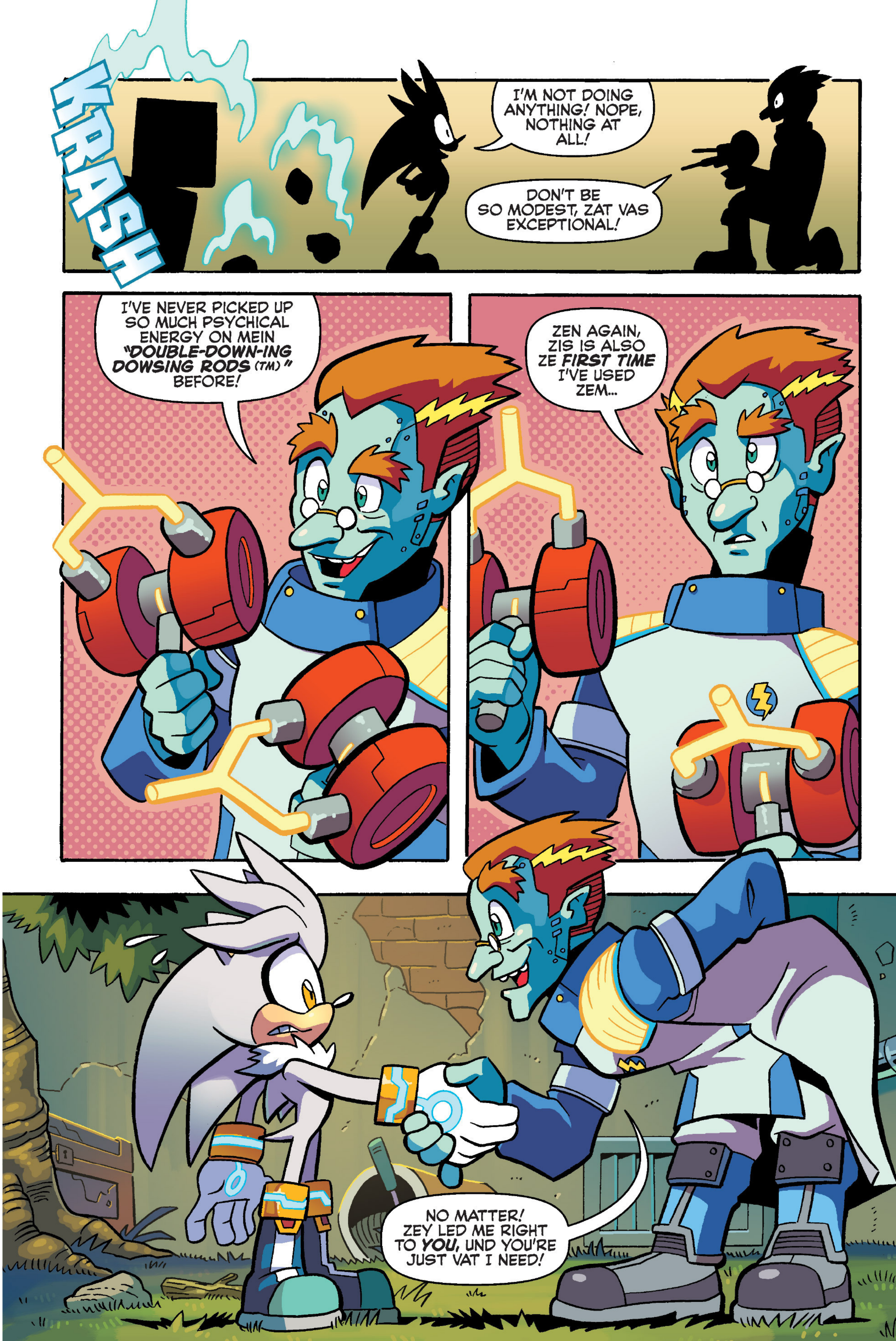

OUR CITY'S FINE CIVIL PROTECTION ROBOTS WILL BE ON HAND TO AID ANYONE WHO IS UNSURE ABOUT THEIR ASSIGNMENT, AND ESCORT THEM TO THEIR PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT.
YEAH, RIGHT.
YOU CAN DO YOUR PART, TOO! IF YOU SEE SOMEONE AVOIDING THEIR CIVIC DUTY, BE SURE TO ALERT THE COUNCIL!
LIKE I'D DO THE 'BOTS' JOB FOR THEM--
Uh-Oh!
ATTENTION: THE TEAL-CLASS WORK SHIFT HAS BEGUN. ANY CITIZENS ASSIGNED TO THIS SHIFT *MUST* REPORT.
GASHUNK
GASHUNK GASHUNK

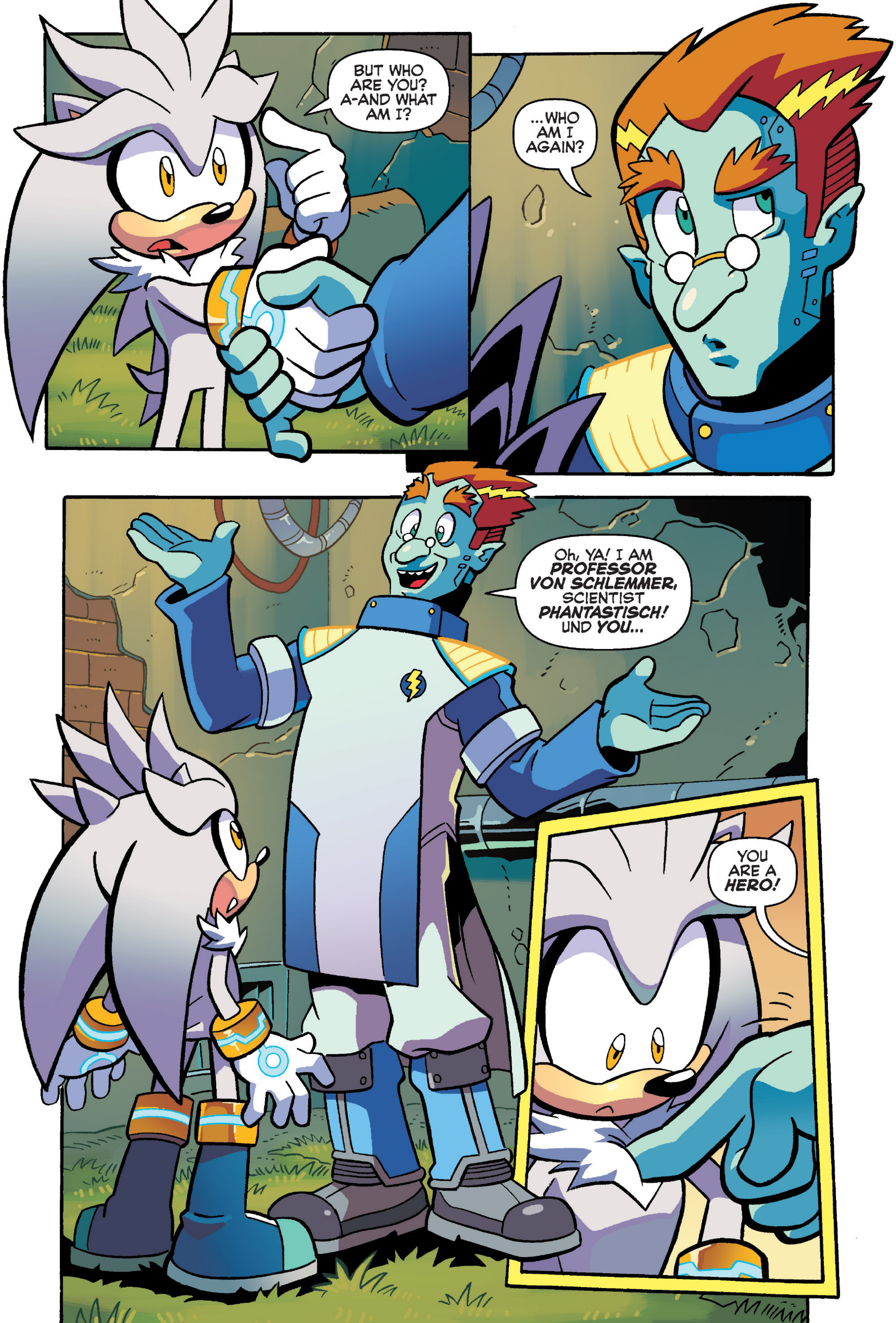

STEP FORWARD NOW, AND YOU WILL BE ESCORTED TO YOUR PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT. FAILURE TO COOPERATE WILL RESULT IN DISCIPLINARY ACTION.
CITIZENS SHIRKING THEIR CIVIC DUTIES ***WILL*** BE FOUND.
NO! ***PLEASE!***
TEAL-CLASS WORKER IDENTIFIED.
HEY--!
I'LL WORK A DOUBLE-SHIFT TOMORROW, I SWEAR!
NO! THEY'LL TAKE ME IN TOO!

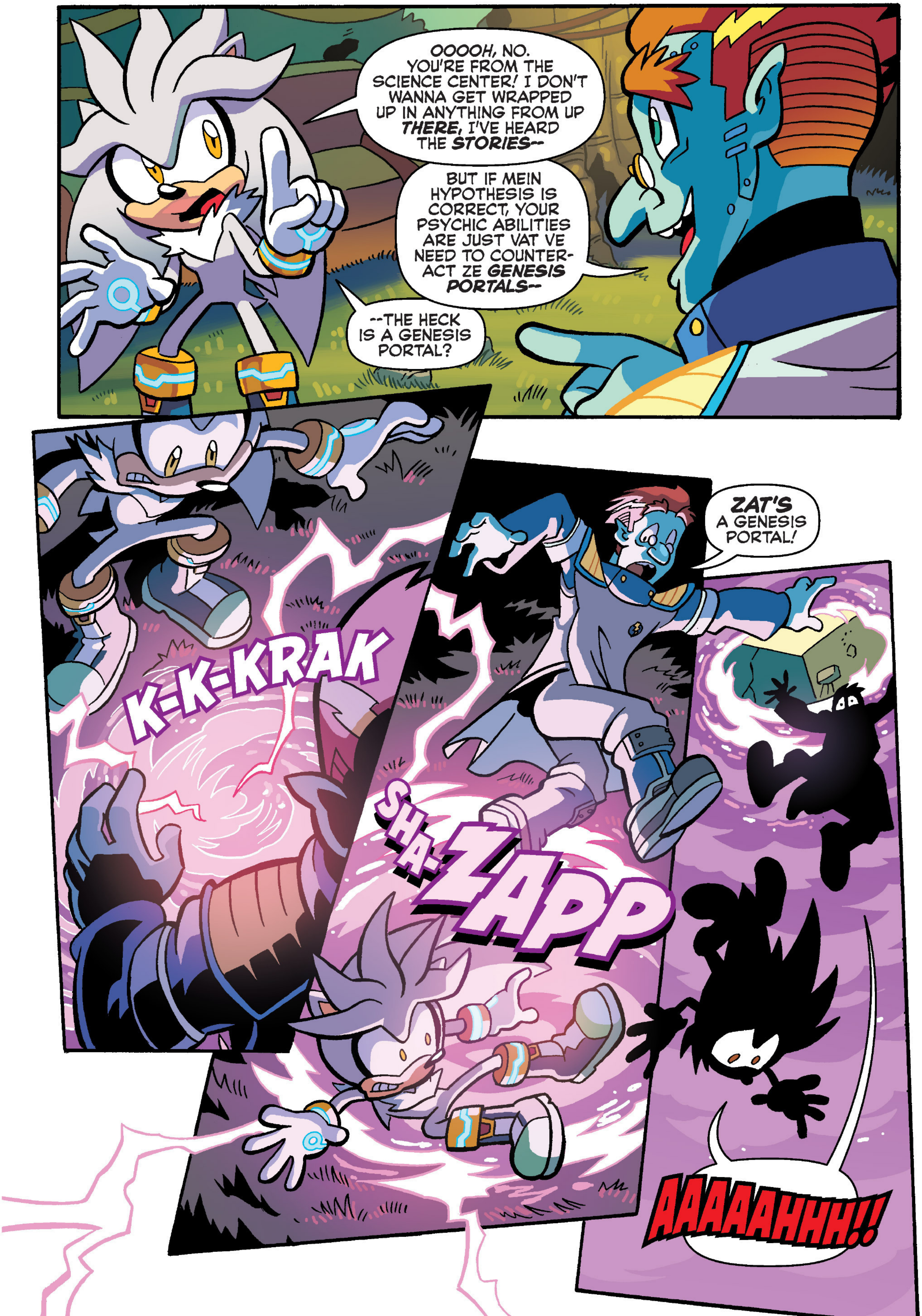

BUT...
JUST A LITTLE WON'T HURT!
SHWEEEEE
FWASH
KRUNCH
THE TARGET HAS ESCAPED! RECAPTURE IMMEDIATELY!
AFFIRMATIVE!
WEE-OO-WEE-OO
WEE-OO-WEE-OO
GOOD LUCK!

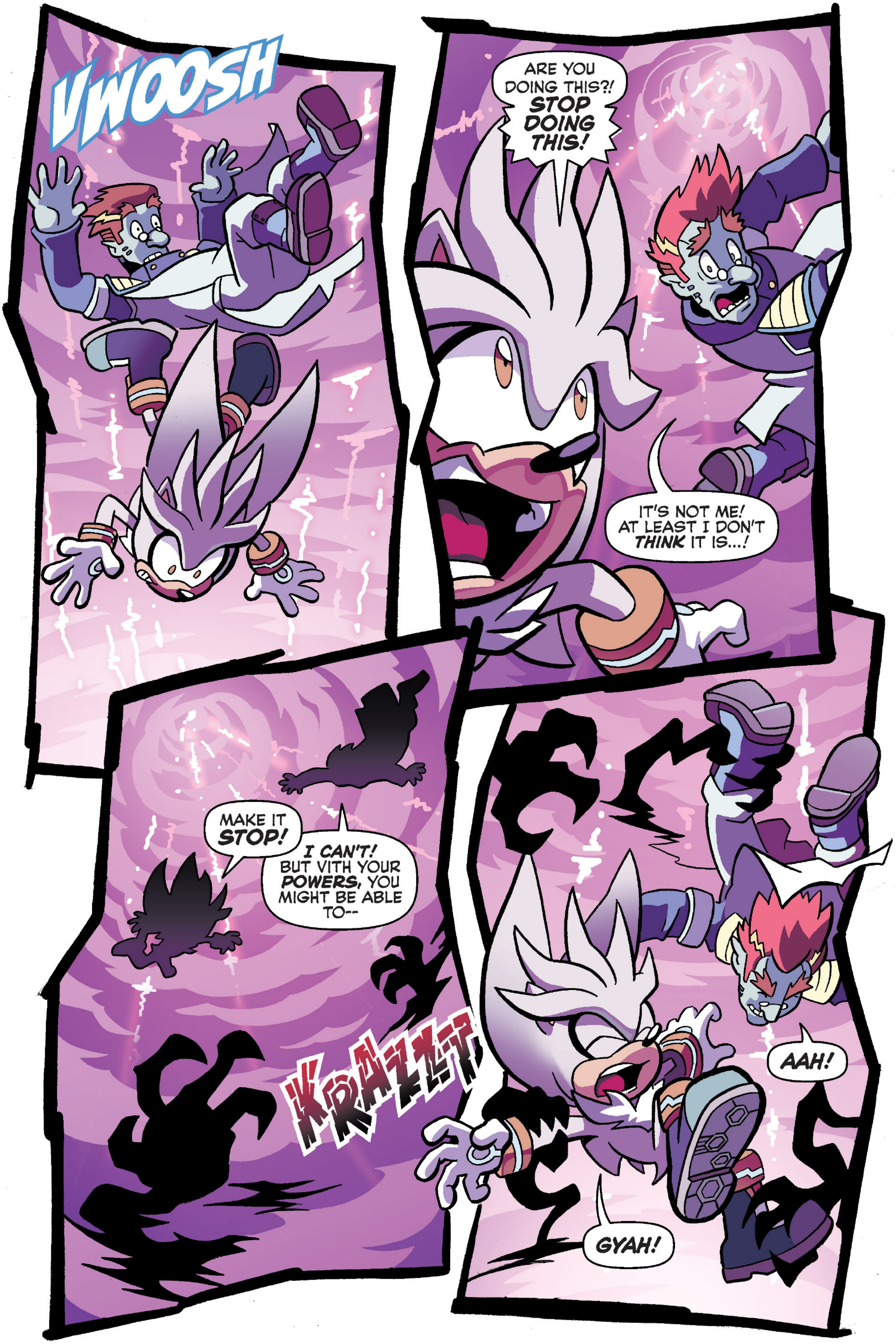

HOME FREE...!
HELLO, TRASH PILE... READY FOR PRACTICE?
"SURE, SILVER!"
I NEED TO STOP TALKING TO MYSELF.
OKAY. FOCUS...

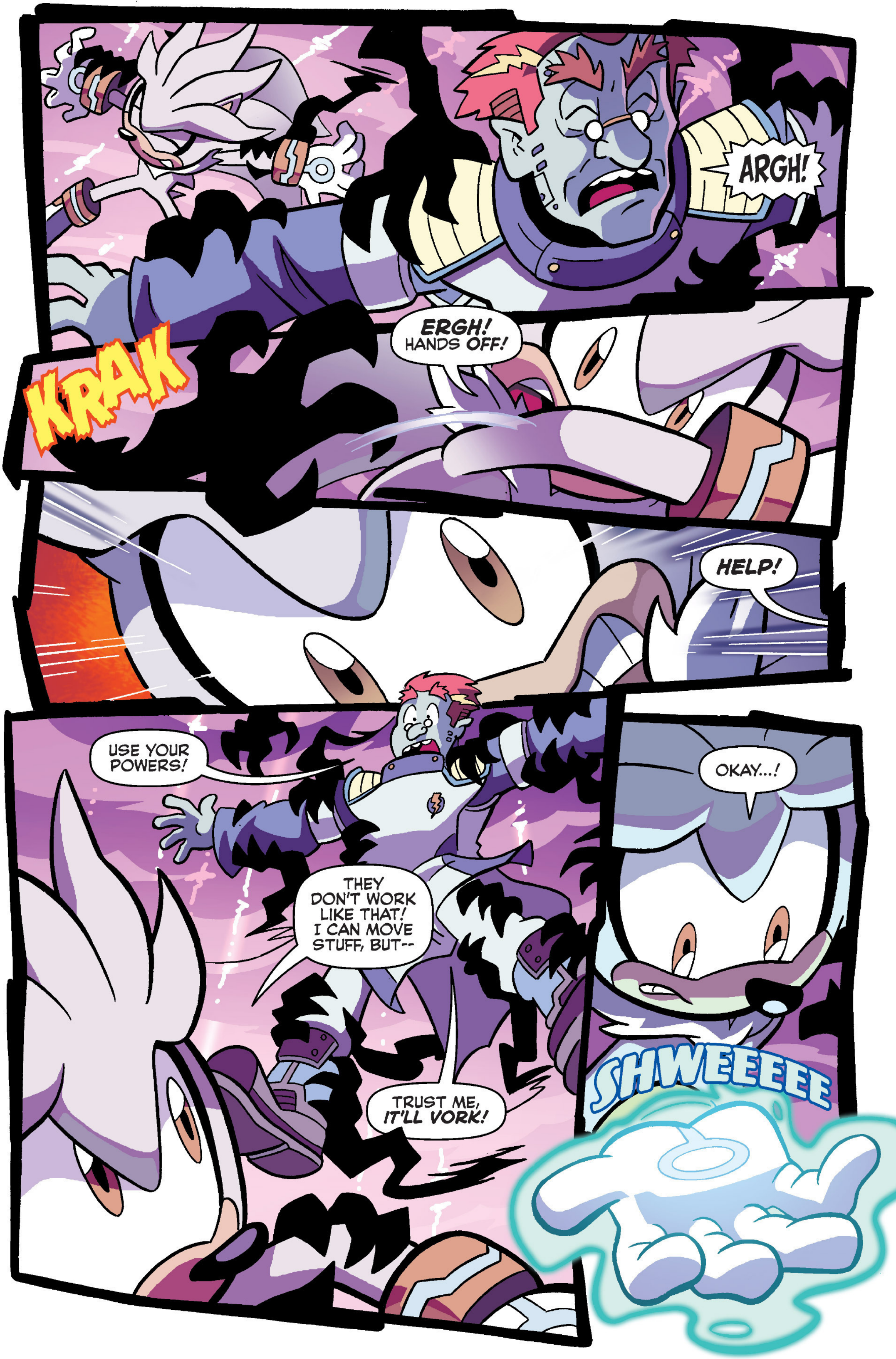

SHWEEEEE
FWASH
HAH!
Ooh, HOO HOO, VERY NICE!
WHA--?!
Oh, DON'T MIND ME, KEEP GOING!

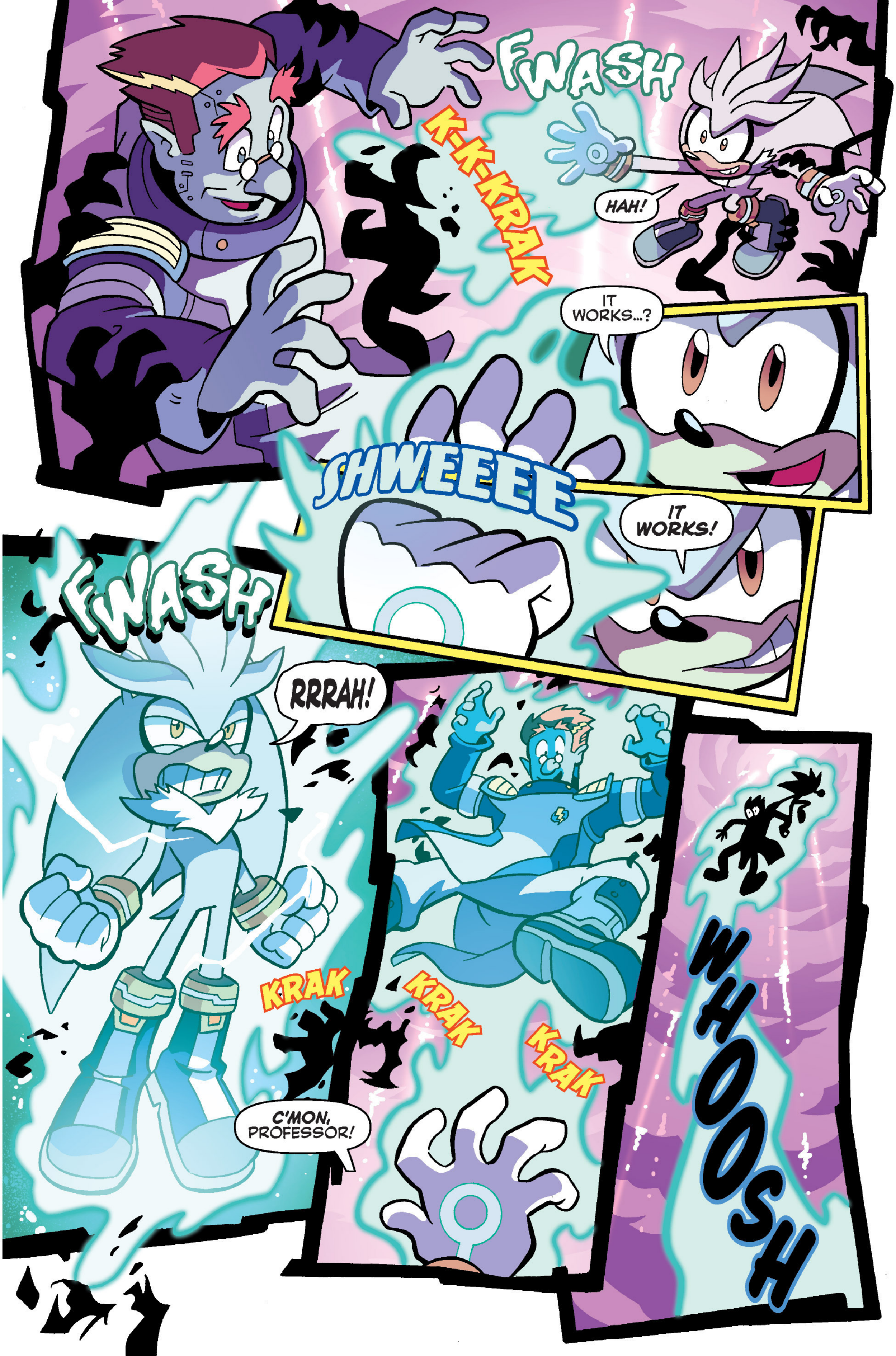

KRASH
I'M NOT DOING ANYTHING! NOPE, NOTHING AT ALL!
DON'T BE SO MODEST, ZAT VAS EXCEPTIONAL!
I'VE NEVER PICKED UP SO MUCH PSYCHICAL ENERGY ON MEIN *"DOUBLE-DOWN-ING DOWSING RODS (TM)"* BEFORE!
ZEN AGAIN, ZIS IS ALSO ZE *FIRST TIME* I'VE USED ZEM...
NO MATTER! ZEY LED ME RIGHT TO *YOU*, UND YOU'RE JUST VAT I NEED!

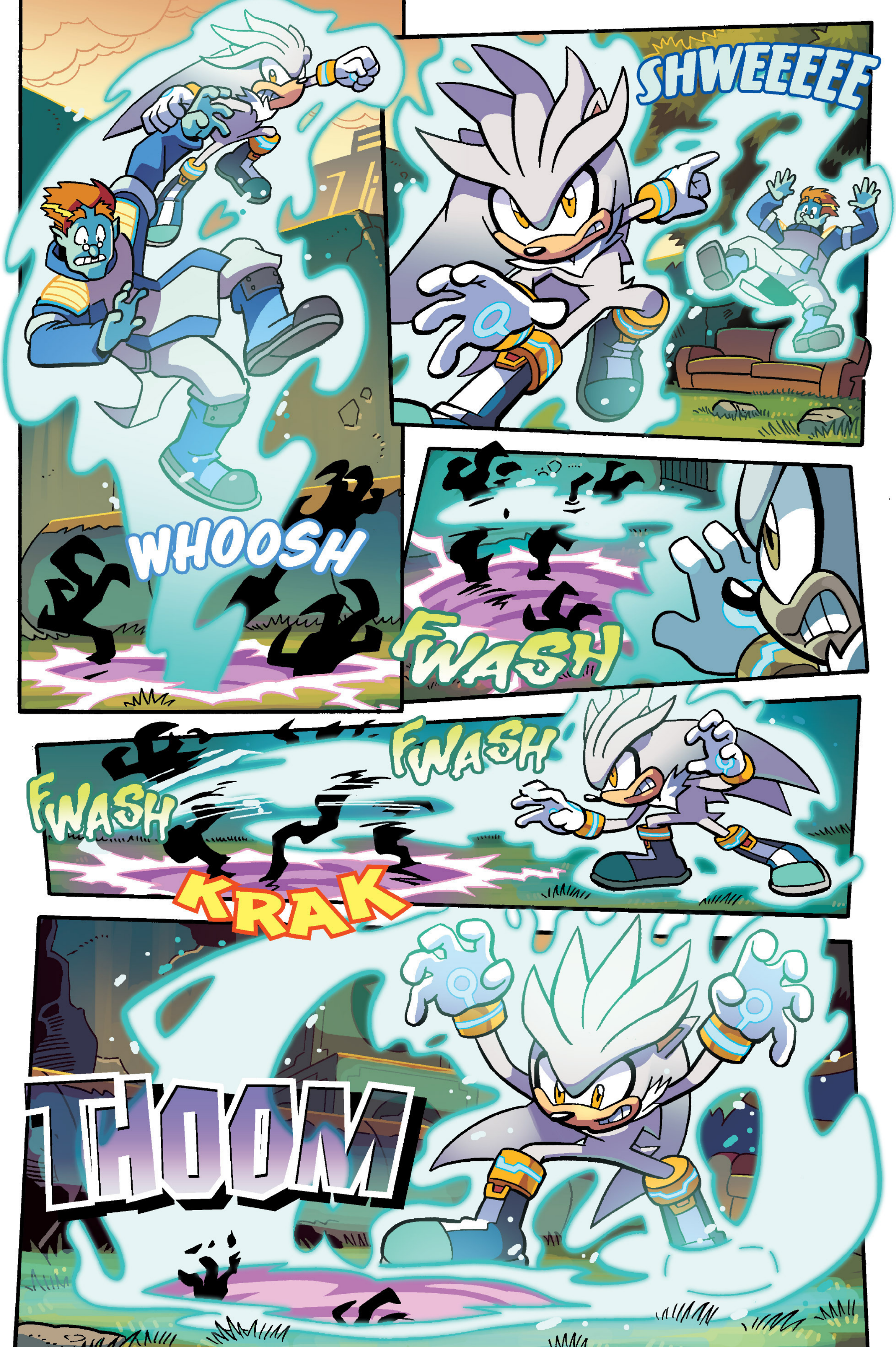

BUT WHO ARE YOU? A-AND WHAT AM I?
...WHO AM I AGAIN?
Oh, YA! I AM **PROFESSOR VON SCHLEMMER,** SCIENTIST **PHANTASTISCH!** UND **YOU...**
YOU ARE A **HERO!**

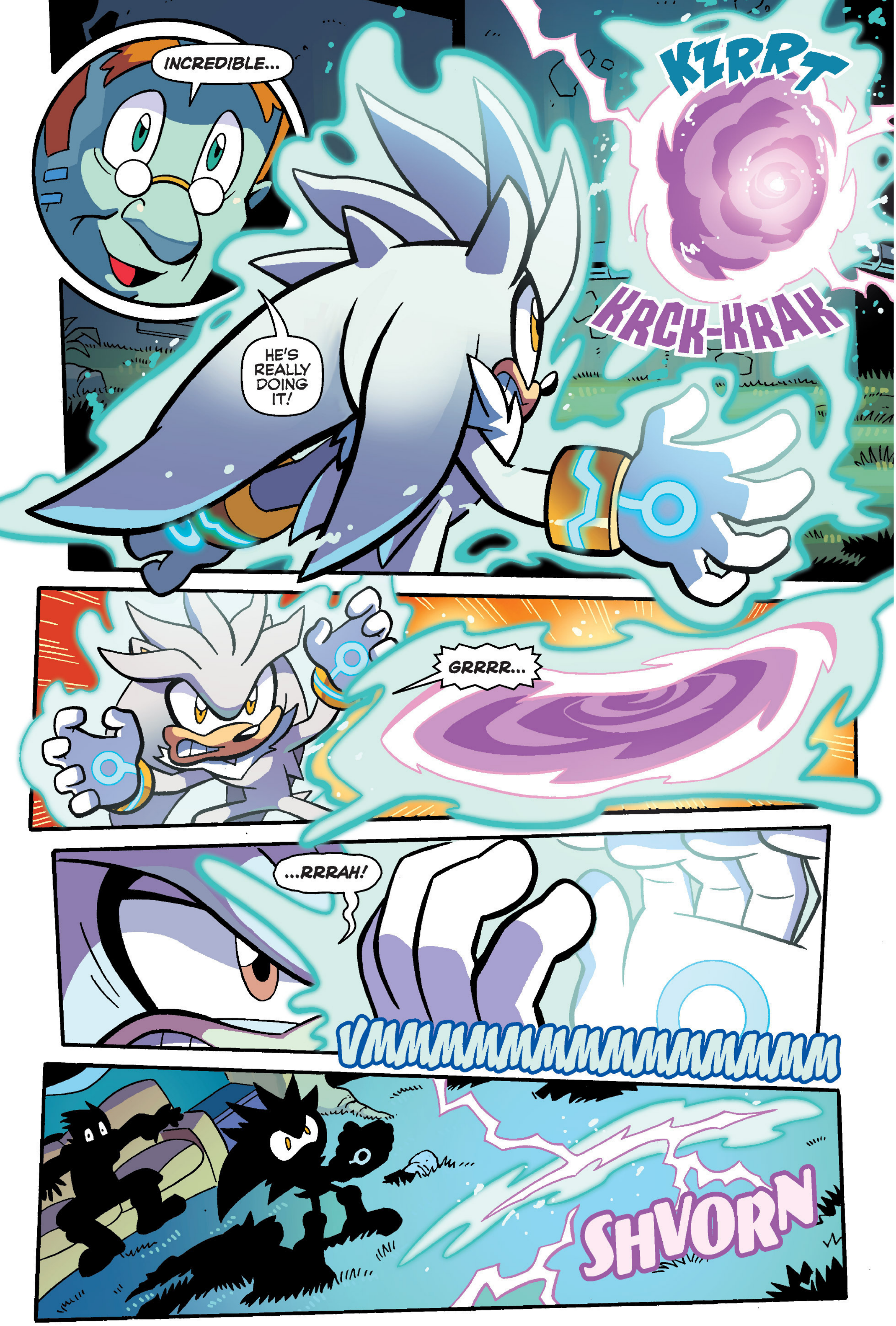

OOOOH, NO. YOU'RE FROM THE SCIENCE CENTER! I DON'T WANNA GET WRAPPED UP IN ANYTHING FROM UP *THERE*, I'VE HEARD THE *STORIES*--
BUT IF MEIN HYPOTHESIS IS CORRECT, YOUR PSYCHIC ABILITIES ARE JUST VAT VE NEED TO COUNTERACT ZE *GENESIS PORTALS*--
--THE HECK IS A GENESIS PORTAL?
K-K-KRAK
SHA-ZAPP
ZAT'S A GENESIS PORTAL!
AAAAAHHH!!

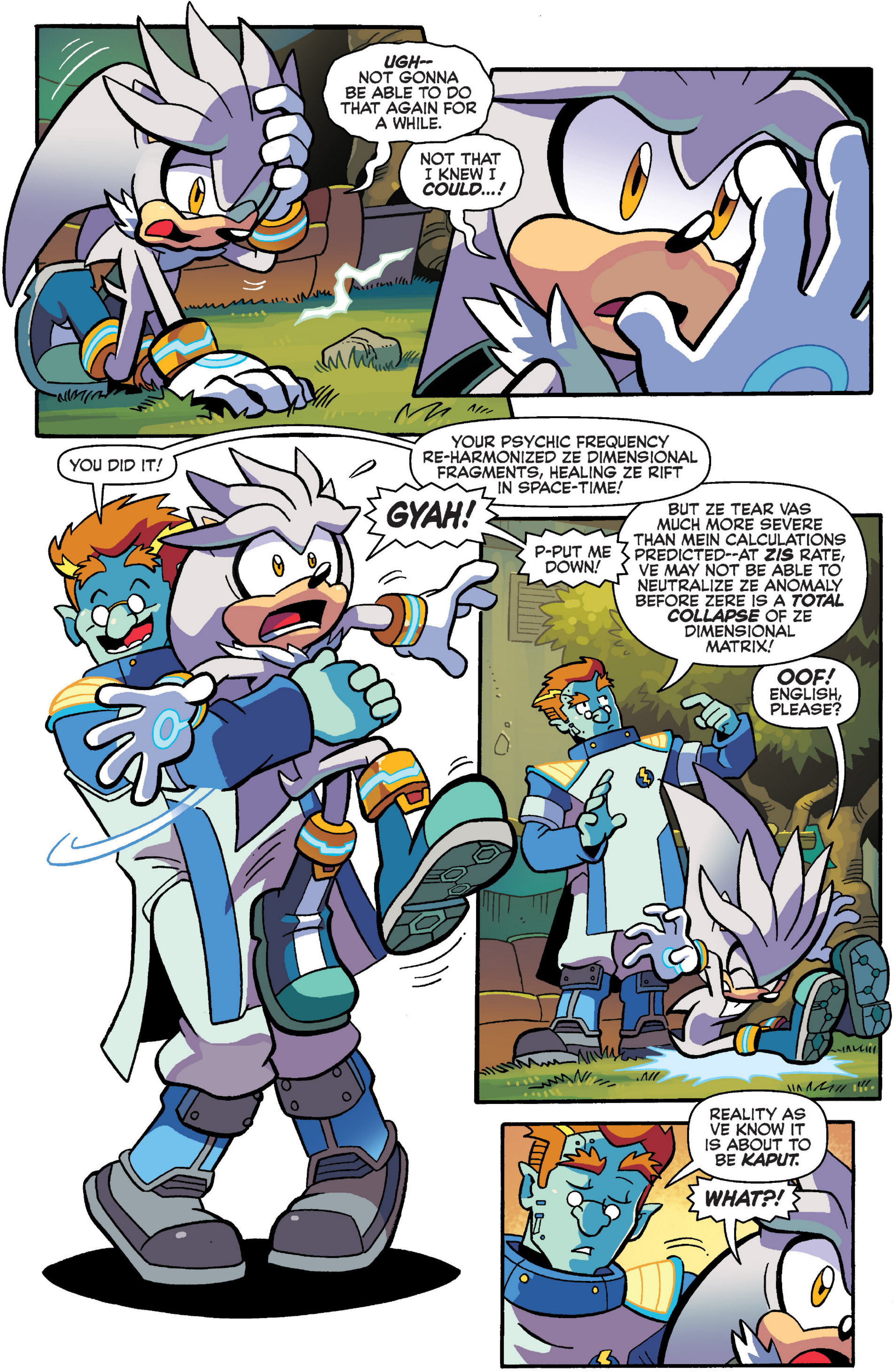

VWOOSH
ARE YOU DOING THIS?! **STOP DOING THIS!**
IT'S NOT ME! AT LEAST I DON'T *THINK* IT IS...!
MAKE IT **STOP!**
I CAN'T! BUT VITH YOUR ***POWERS,*** YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO--
KRAZZT
AAH!
GYAH!

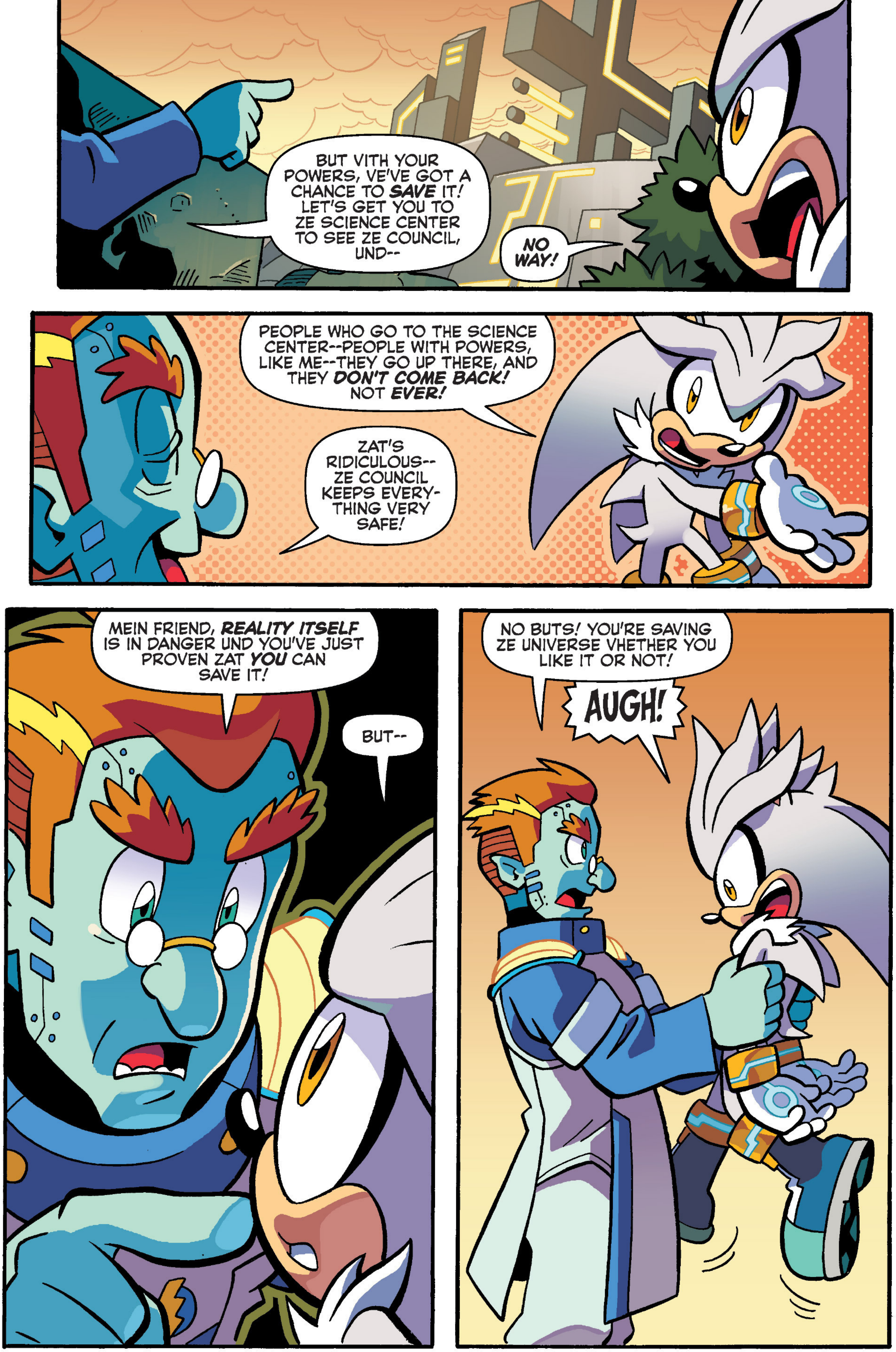

ARGH!
KRAK
ERGH! HANDS OFF!
HELP!
USE YOUR POWERS!
THEY DON'T WORK LIKE THAT! I CAN MOVE STUFF, BUT--
TRUST ME, IT'LL VORK!
OKAY...!
SHWEEEEE

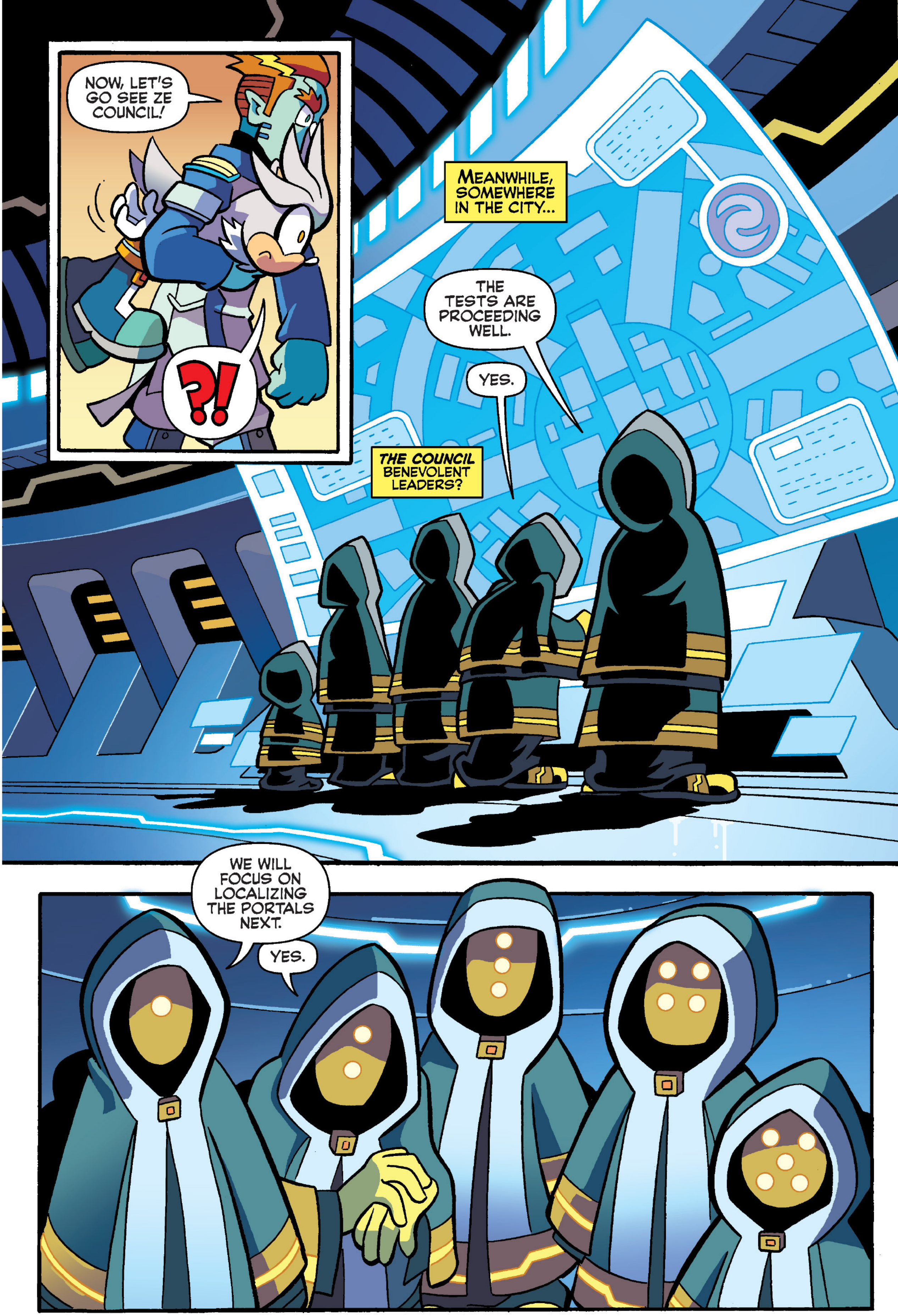

FWASH
K-K-KRAK
HAH!
IT WORKS...?
SHWEEEE
IT WORKS!
FWASH
RRRAH!
KRAK
KRAK
KRAK
C'MON, PROFESSOR!
WHOOOSH

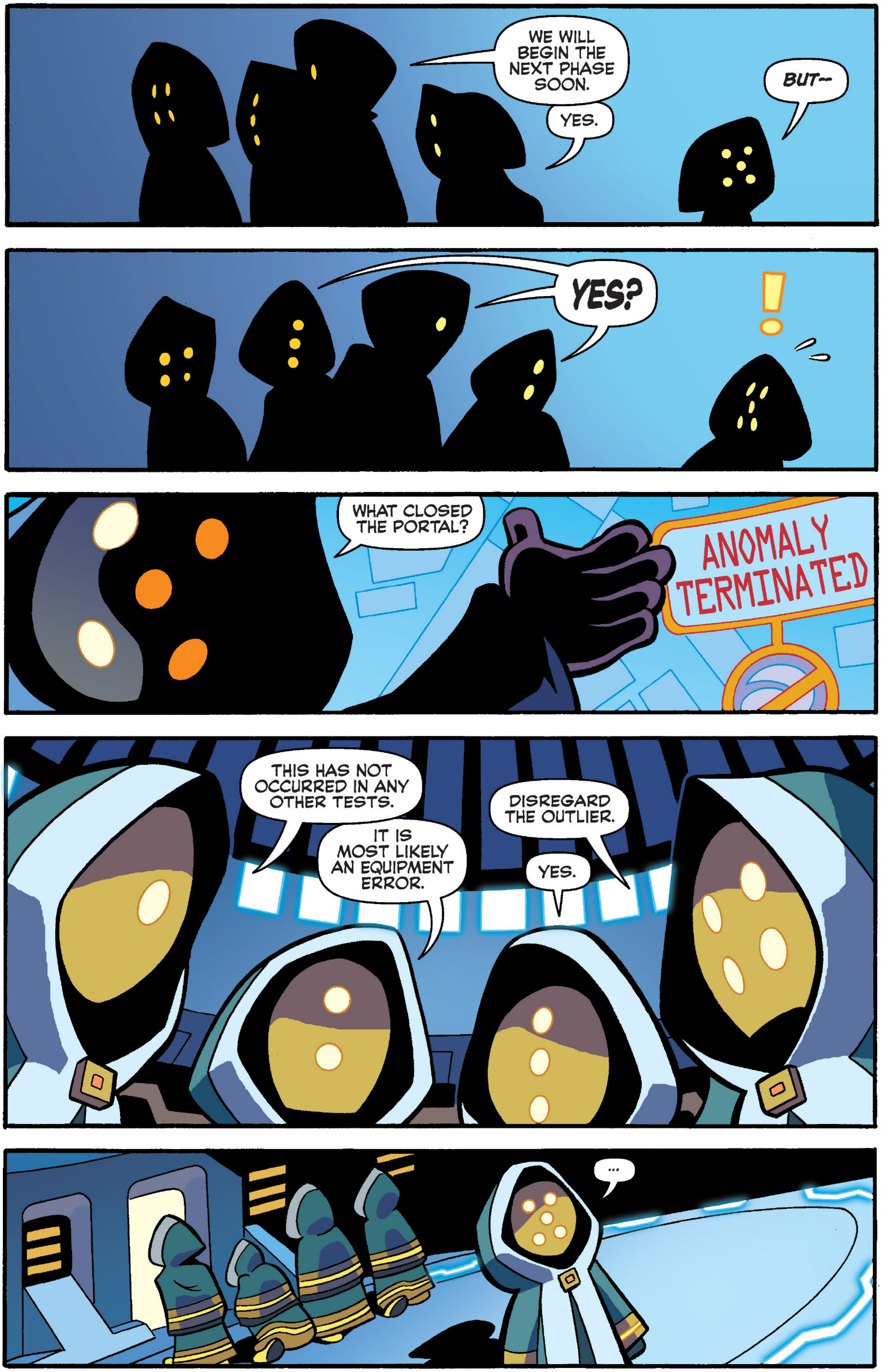

SHWEEEEEE
WHOOSH
FWASH
FWASH
FWASH
KRAK
THOOM

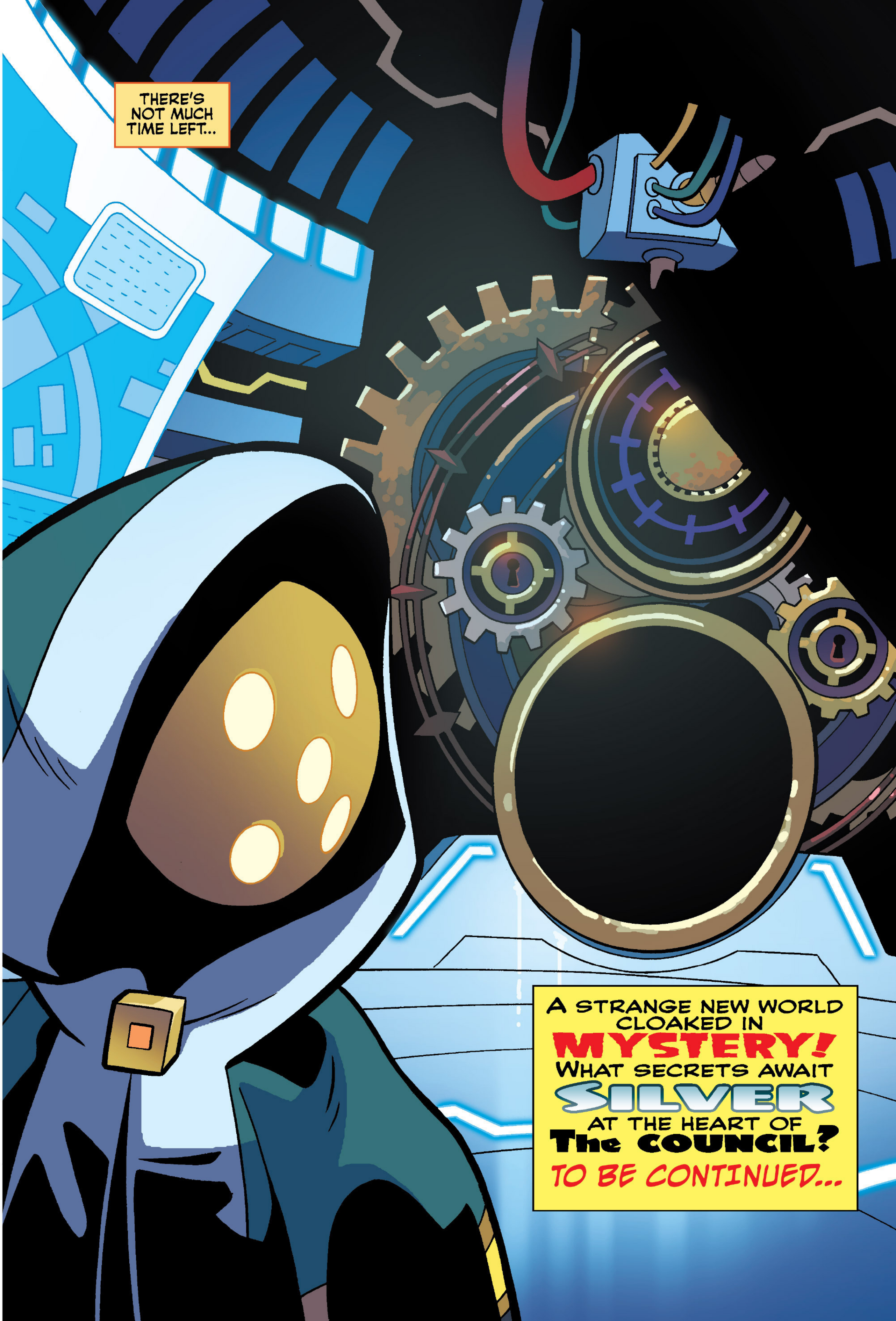

INCREDIBLE...
KZRRT
KRCK-KRAK
HE'S REALLY DOING IT!
GRRRR...
...RRRAH!
VMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMM
SHVORN

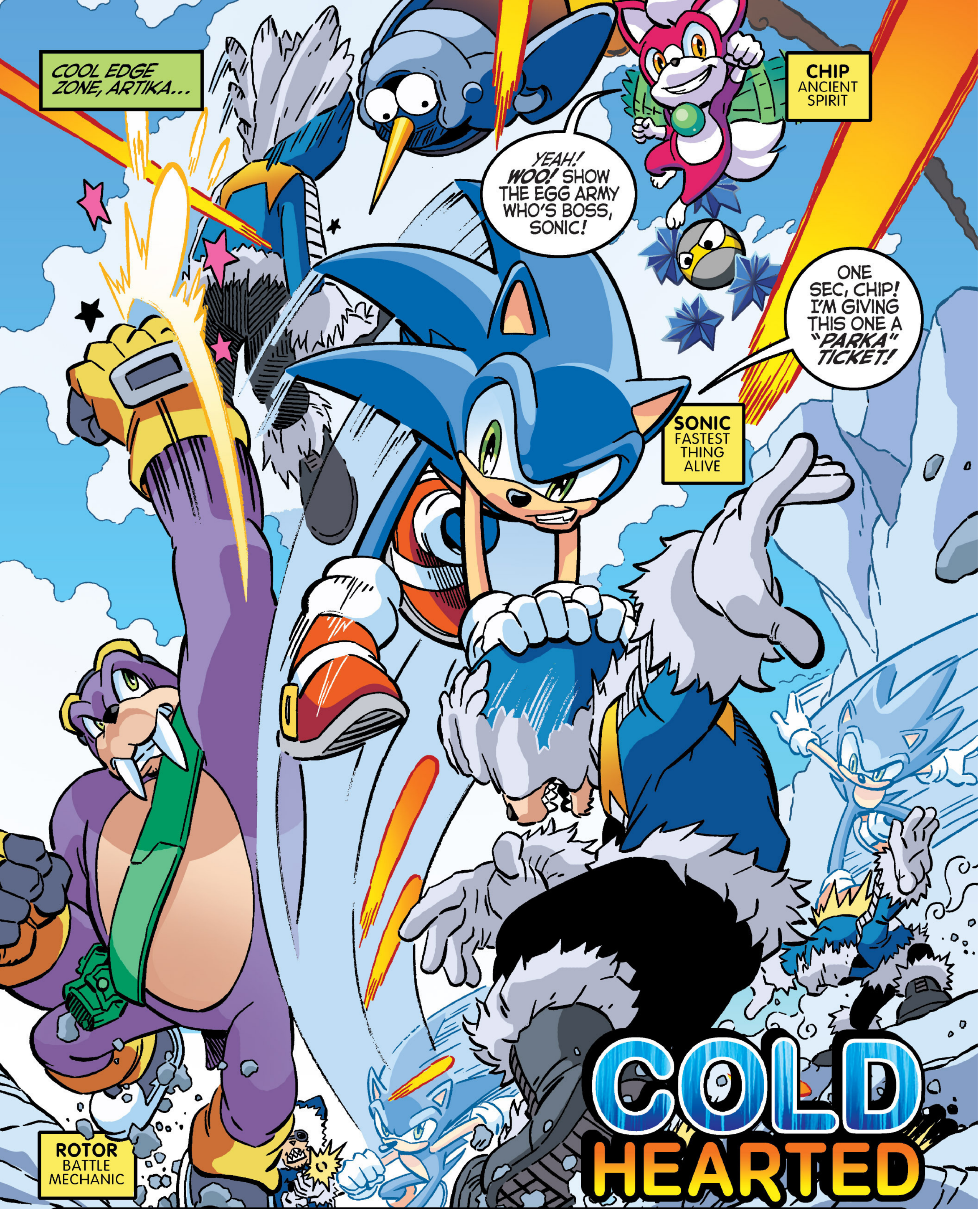

UGH-- NOT GONNA BE ABLE TO DO THAT AGAIN FOR A WHILE.
NOT THAT I KNEW I ***COULD...!***
YOU DID IT!
YOUR PSYCHIC FREQUENCY RE-HARMONIZED ZE DIMENSIONAL FRAGMENTS, HEALING ZE RIFT IN SPACE-TIME!
GYAH!
P-PUT ME DOWN!
BUT ZE TEAR VAS MUCH MORE SEVERE THAN MEIN CALCULATIONS PREDICTED--AT ***ZIS*** RATE, VE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO NEUTRALIZE ZE ANOMALY BEFORE ZERE IS A ***TOTAL COLLAPSE*** OF ZE DIMENSIONAL MATRIX!
OOF! ENGLISH, PLEASE?
REALITY AS VE KNOW IT IS ABOUT TO BE ***KAPUT.***
WHAT?!


BUT VITH YOUR POWERS, VE'VE GOT A CHANCE TO SAVE IT! LET'S GET YOU TO ZE SCIENCE CENTER TO SEE ZE COUNCIL, UND--
NO WAY!
PEOPLE WHO GO TO THE SCIENCE CENTER--PEOPLE WITH POWERS, LIKE ME--THEY GO UP THERE, AND THEY DON'T COME BACK! NOT EVER!
ZAT'S RIDICULOUS-- ZE COUNCIL KEEPS EVERYTHING VERY SAFE!
MEIN FRIEND, REALITY ITSELF IS IN DANGER UND YOU'VE JUST PROVEN ZAT YOU CAN SAVE IT!
BUT--
NO BUTS! YOU'RE SAVING ZE UNIVERSE VHETHER YOU LIKE IT OR NOT!
AUGH!


NOW, LET'S GO SEE ZE COUNCIL!
?!
MEANWHILE, SOMEWHERE IN THE CITY...
THE TESTS ARE PROCEEDING WELL.
YES.
THE COUNCIL BENEVOLENT LEADERS?
WE WILL FOCUS ON LOCALIZING THE PORTALS NEXT.
YES.


WE WILL BEGIN THE NEXT PHASE SOON.
YES.
BUT--
YES?
!
WHAT CLOSED THE PORTAL?
ANOMALY TERMINATED
THIS HAS NOT OCCURRED IN ANY OTHER TESTS.
IT IS MOST LIKELY AN EQUIPMENT ERROR.
DISREGARD THE OUTLIER.
YES.
...


THERE'S NOT MUCH TIME LEFT...
A STRANGE NEW WORLD CLOAKED IN MYSTERY! WHAT SECRETS AWAIT SILVER AT THE HEART OF The COUNCIL?
TO BE CONTINUED...


COOL EDGE ZONE, ARTIKA...
CHIP ANCIENT SPIRIT
YEAH! WOO! SHOW THE EGG ARMY WHO'S BOSS, SONIC!
ONE SEC, CHIP! I'M GIVING THIS ONE A "PARKA" TICKET!
SONIC FASTEST THING ALIVE
ROTOR BATTLE MECHANIC

COLD HEARTED

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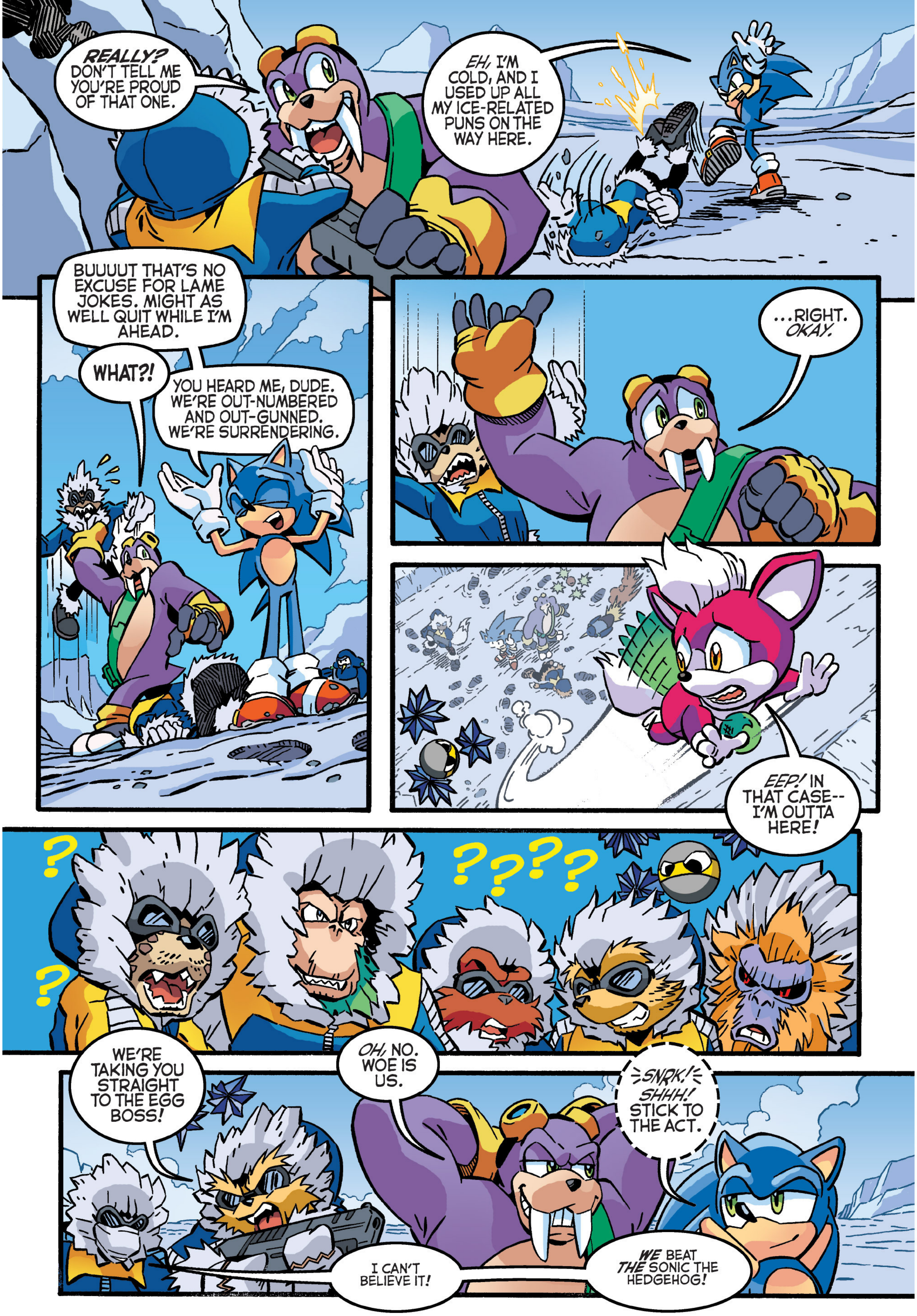
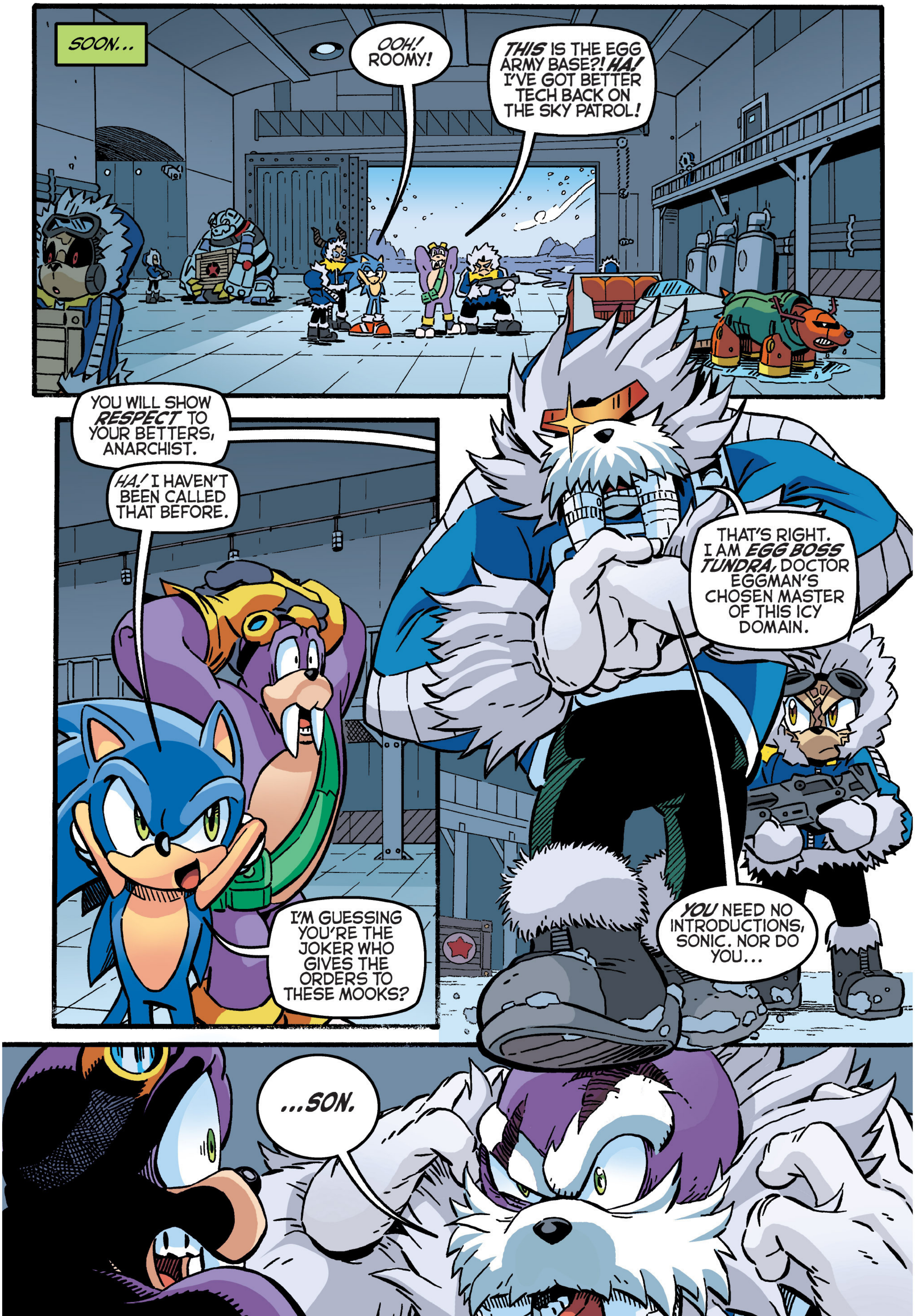
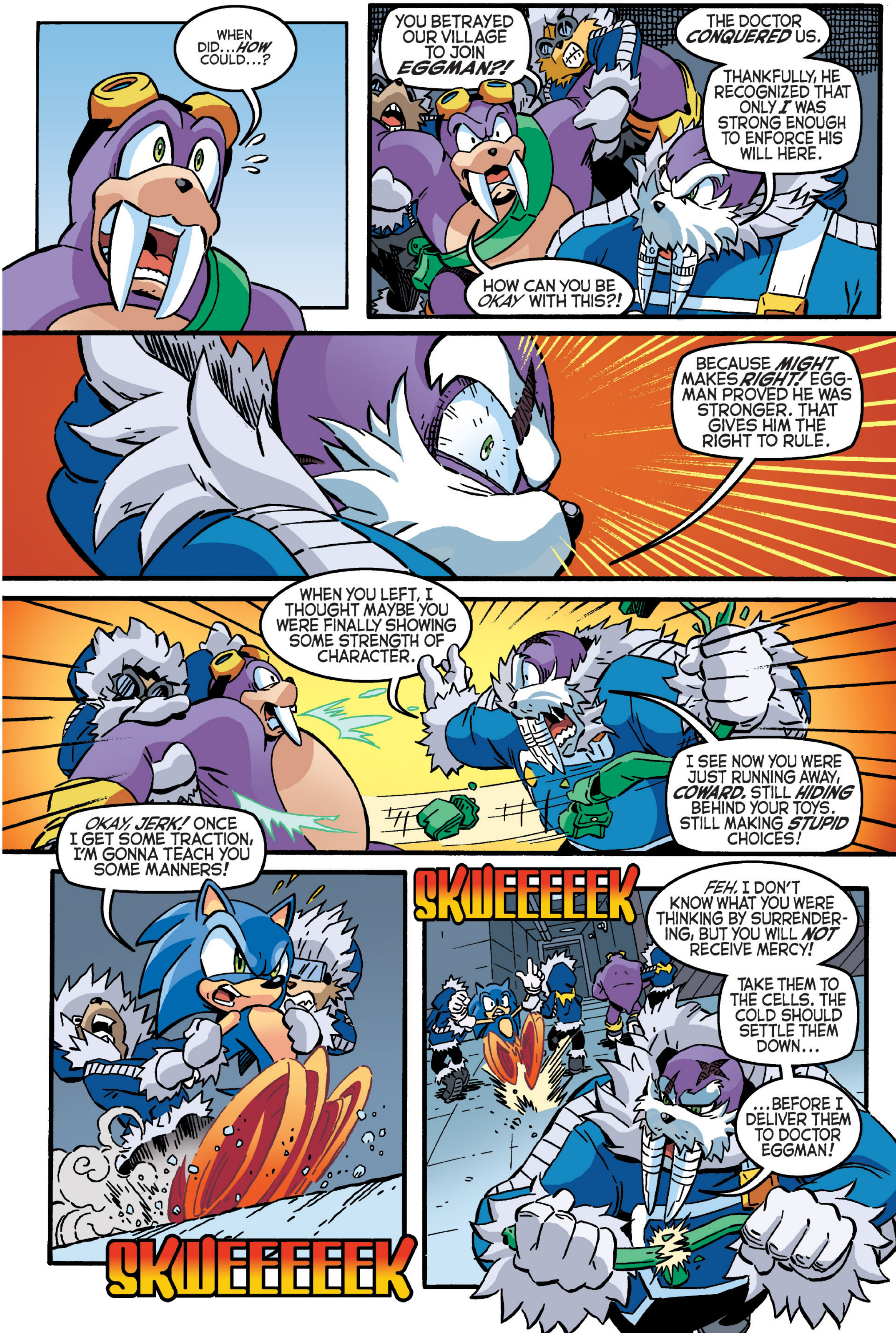
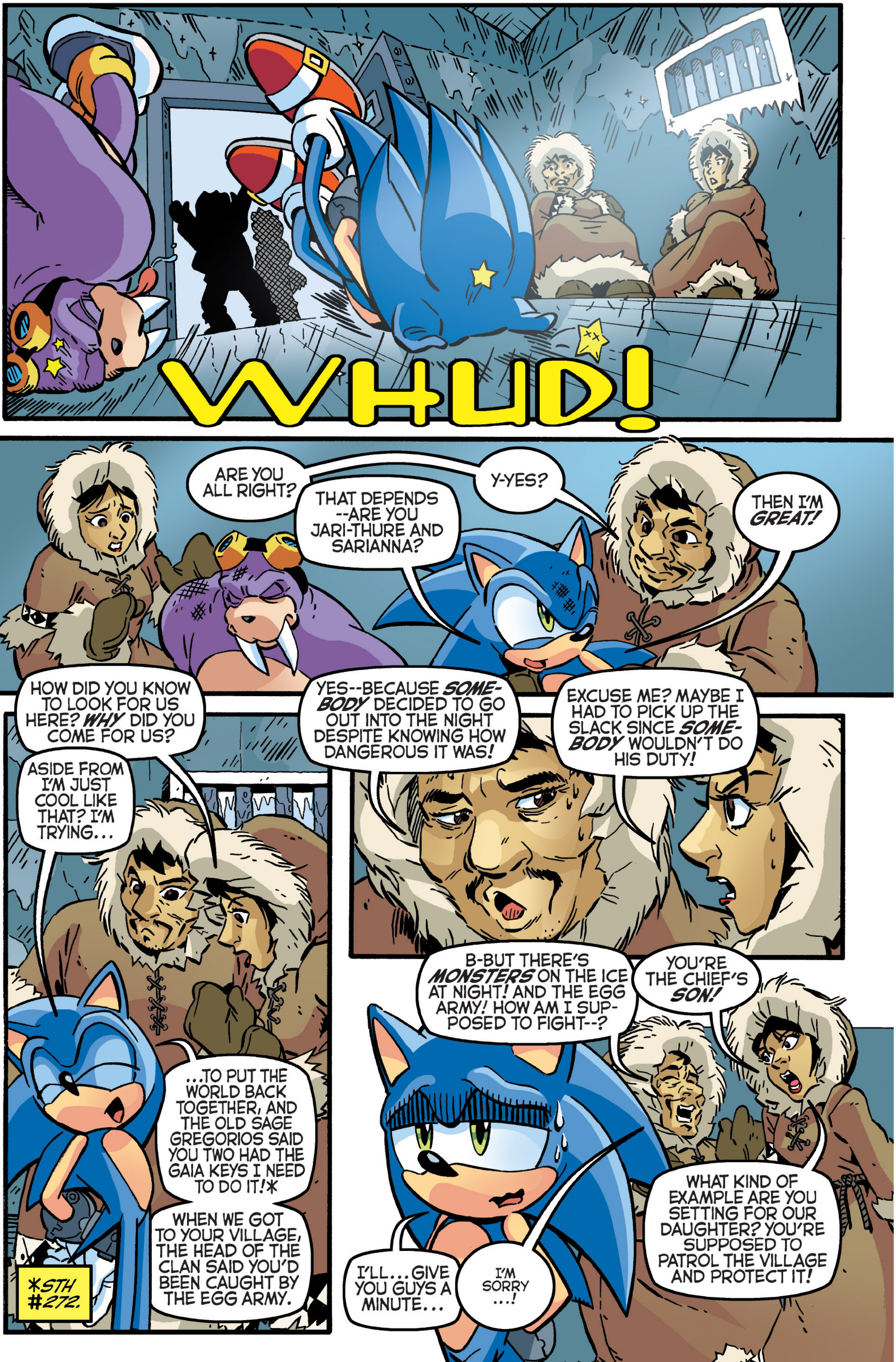
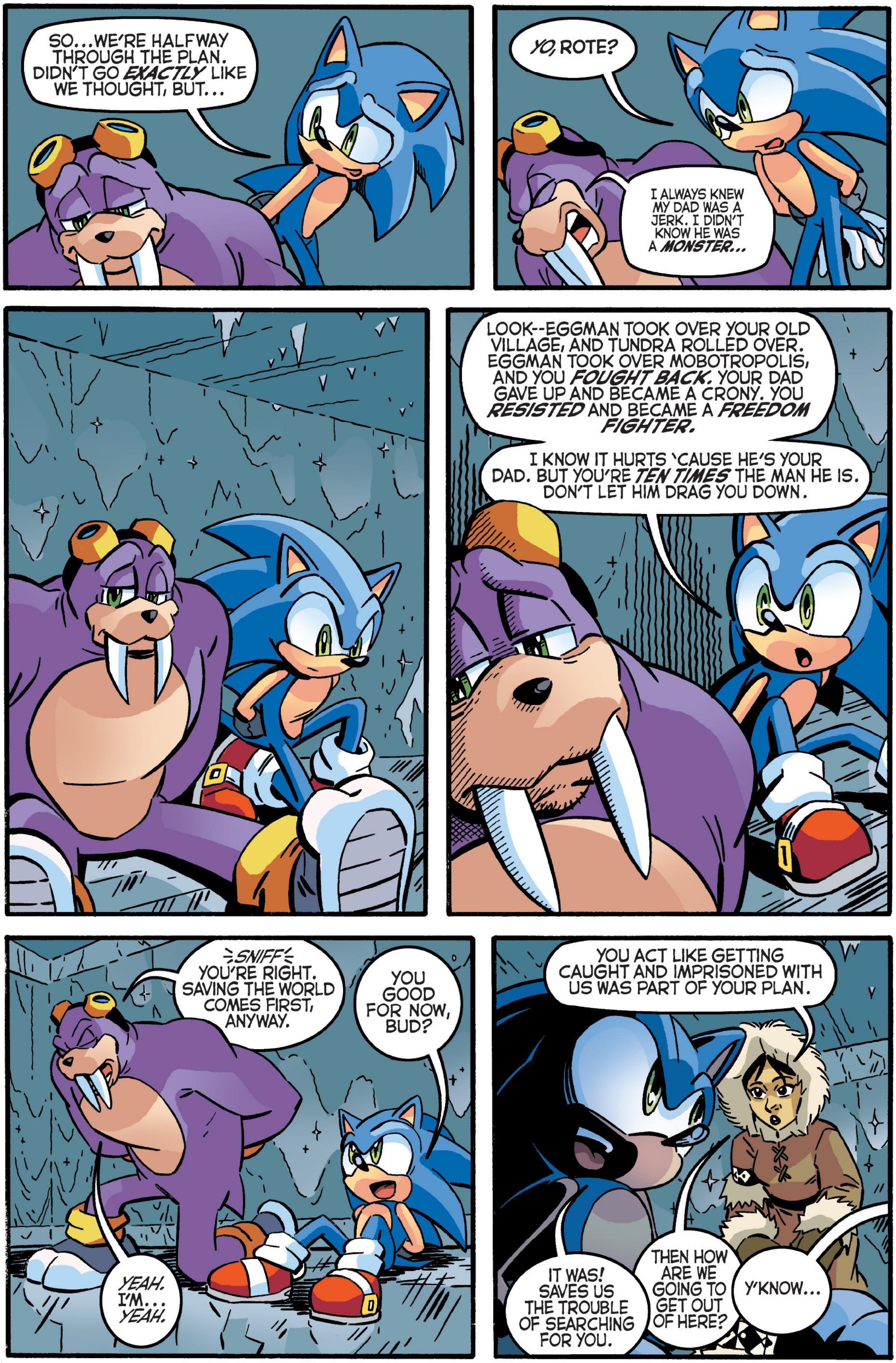
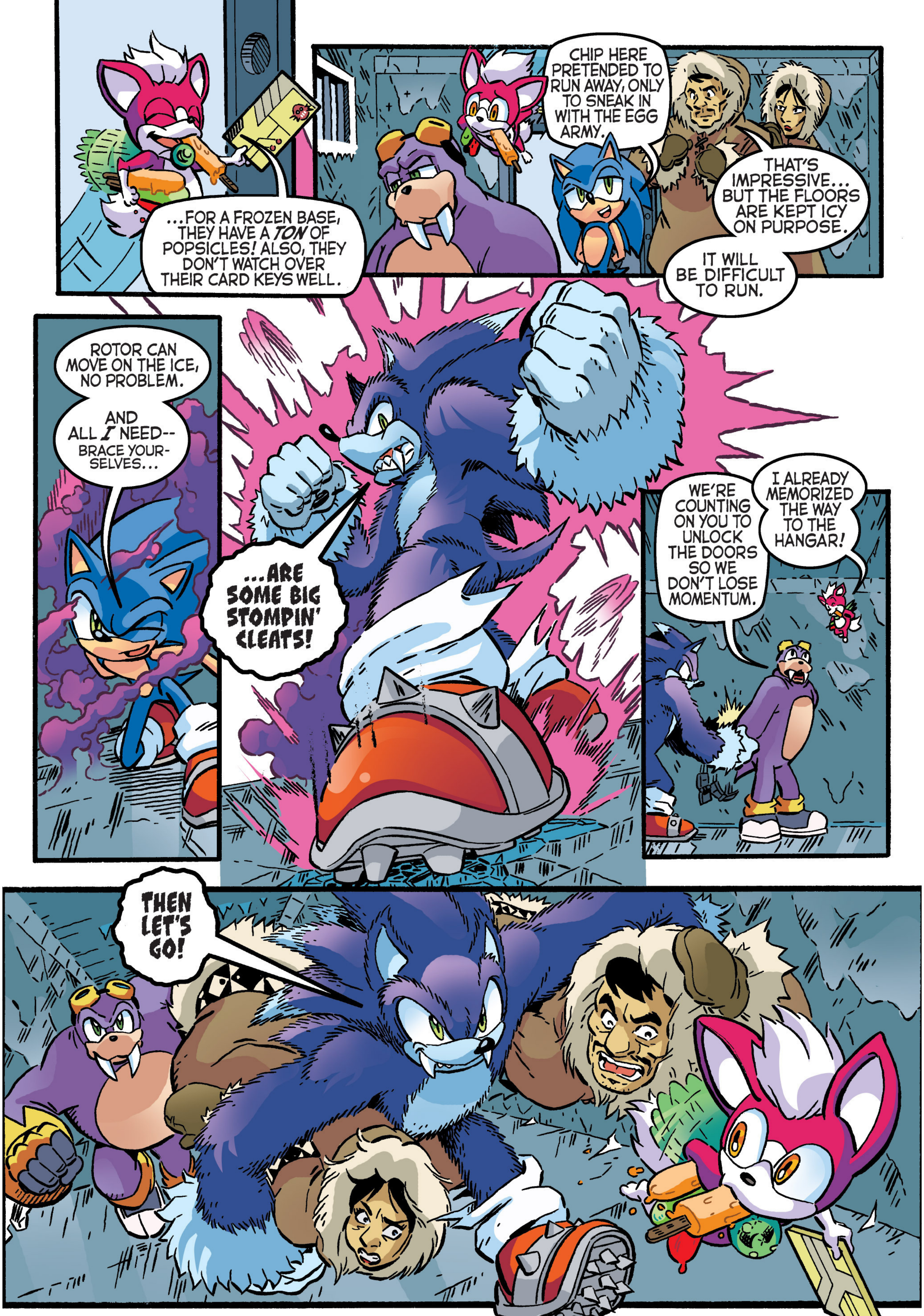

REALLY? DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE PROUD OF THAT ONE.
EH, I'M COLD, AND I USED UP ALL MY ICE-RELATED PUNS ON THE WAY HERE.
BUUUUT THAT'S NO EXCUSE FOR LAME JOKES. MIGHT AS WELL QUIT WHILE I'M AHEAD.
WHAT?!
YOU HEARD ME, DUDE. WE'RE OUT-NUMBERED AND OUT-GUNNED. WE'RE SURRENDERING.
...RIGHT. OKAY.
EEP! IN THAT CASE-- I'M OUTTA HERE!
? ????
?
WE'RE TAKING YOU STRAIGHT TO THE EGG BOSS!
OH, NO. WOE IS US.
SNRK! SHHH! STICK TO THE ACT.
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
WE BEAT THE SONIC THE HEDGEHOG!

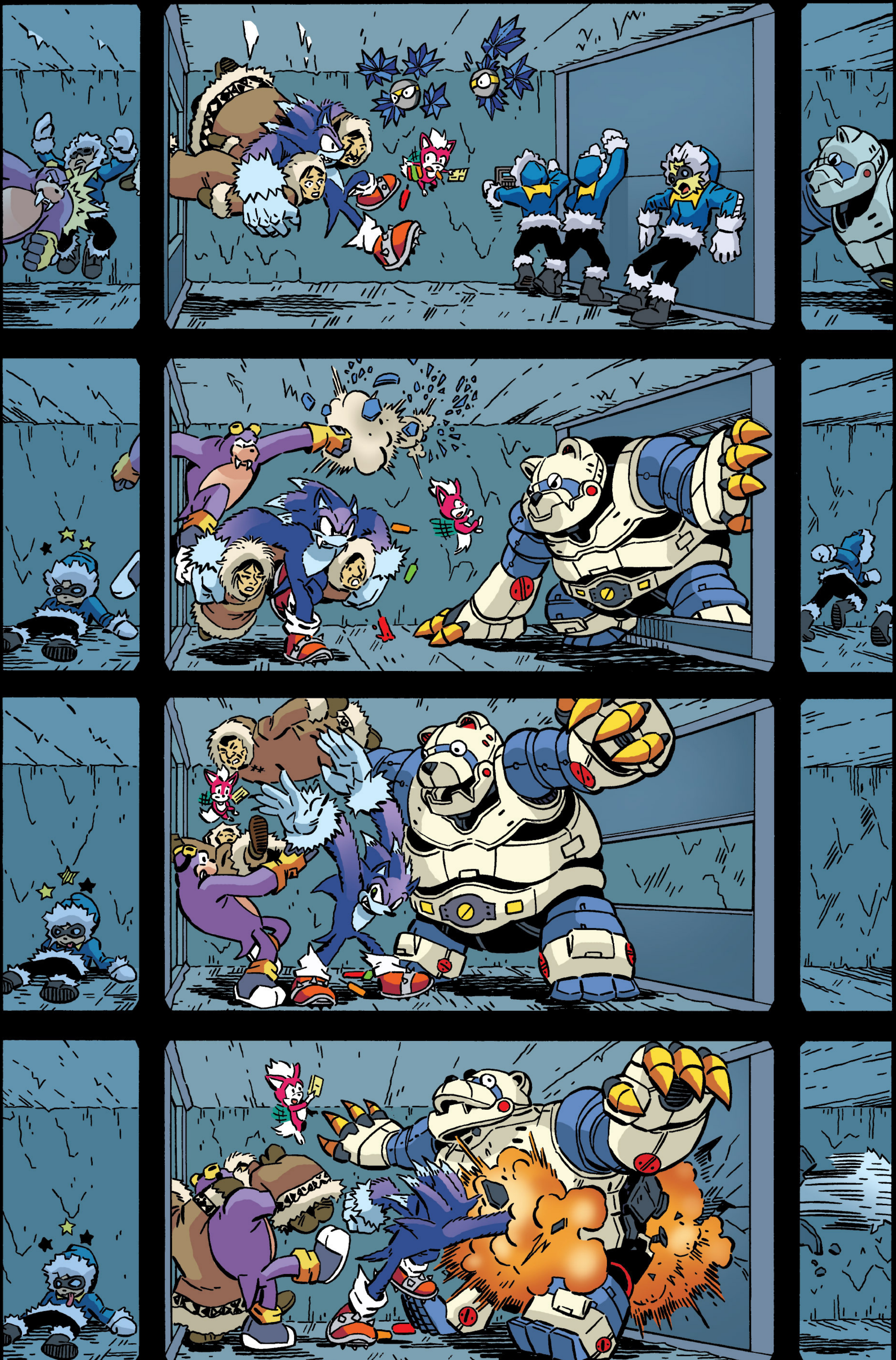

SOON...
OOH! ROOMY!
THIS IS THE EGG ARMY BASE?! HA! I'VE GOT BETTER TECH BACK ON THE SKY PATROL!
YOU WILL SHOW RESPECT TO YOUR BETTERS, ANARCHIST.
HA! I HAVEN'T BEEN CALLED THAT BEFORE.
I'M GUESSING YOU'RE THE JOKER WHO GIVES THE ORDERS TO THESE MOOKS?
THAT'S RIGHT. I AM EGG BOSS TUNDRA, DOCTOR EGGMAN'S CHOSEN MASTER OF THIS ICY DOMAIN.
YOU NEED NO INTRODUCTIONS, SONIC. NOR DO YOU...
...SON.

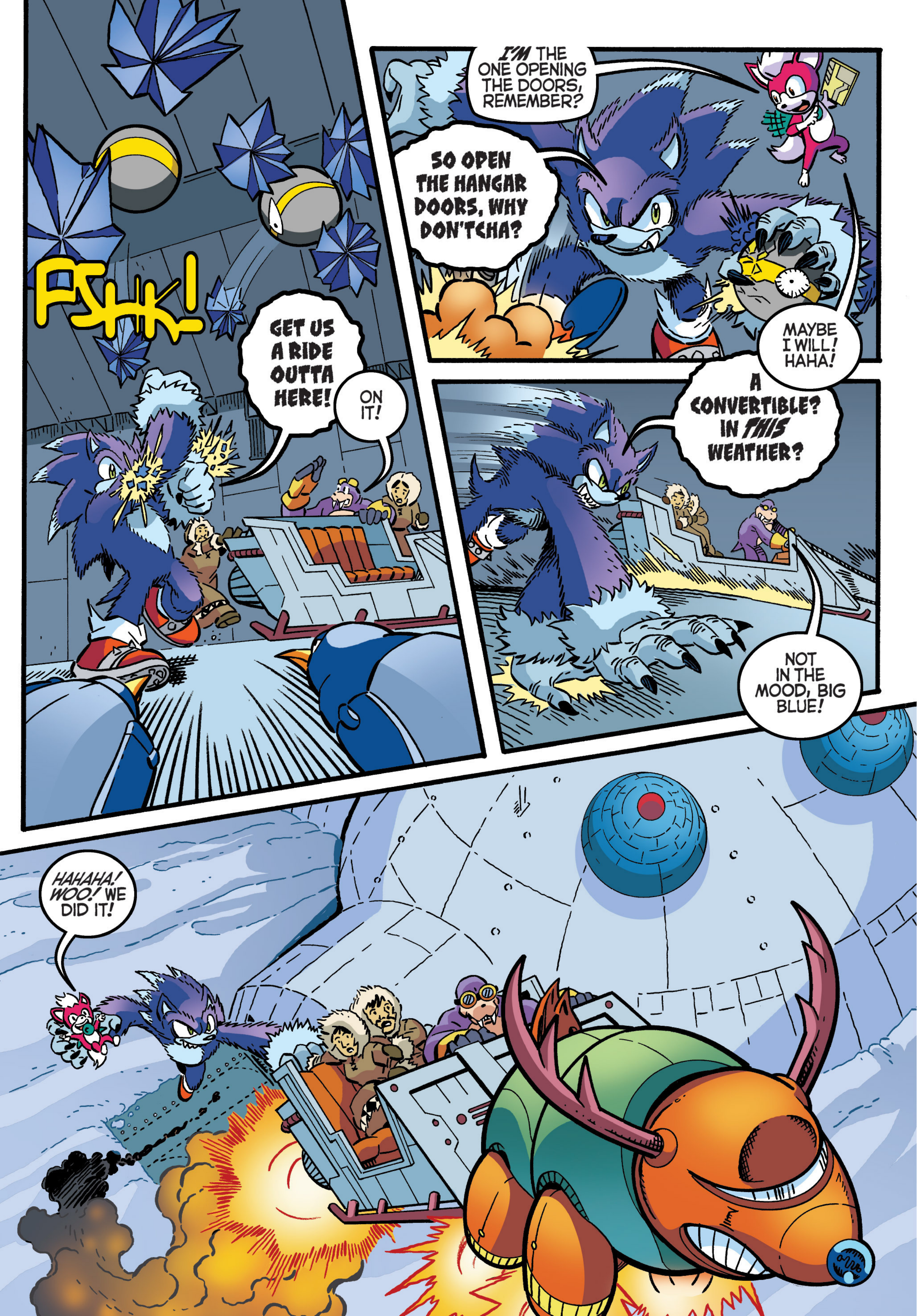

WHEN DID…*HOW* COULD…?
YOU BETRAYED OUR VILLAGE TO JOIN *EGGMAN?!*
THE DOCTOR *CONQUERED* US.
THANKFULLY, HE RECOGNIZED THAT ONLY *I* WAS STRONG ENOUGH TO ENFORCE HIS WILL HERE.
HOW CAN YOU BE *OKAY* WITH THIS?!
BECAUSE *MIGHT* MAKES *RIGHT!* EGGMAN PROVED HE WAS STRONGER. THAT GIVES HIM THE RIGHT TO RULE.
WHEN YOU LEFT, I THOUGHT MAYBE YOU WERE FINALLY SHOWING SOME STRENGTH OF CHARACTER.
I SEE NOW YOU WERE JUST RUNNING AWAY, *COWARD.* STILL *HIDING* BEHIND YOUR TOYS. STILL MAKING *STUPID* CHOICES!
OKAY, JERK! ONCE I GET SOME TRACTION, I'M GONNA TEACH YOU SOME MANNERS!
SKWEEEEEK
SKWEEEEEK
FEH. I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU WERE THINKING BY SURRENDERING, BUT YOU WILL *NOT* RECEIVE MERCY!
TAKE THEM TO THE CELLS. THE COLD SHOULD SETTLE THEM DOWN…
…BEFORE I DELIVER THEM TO DOCTOR EGGMAN!

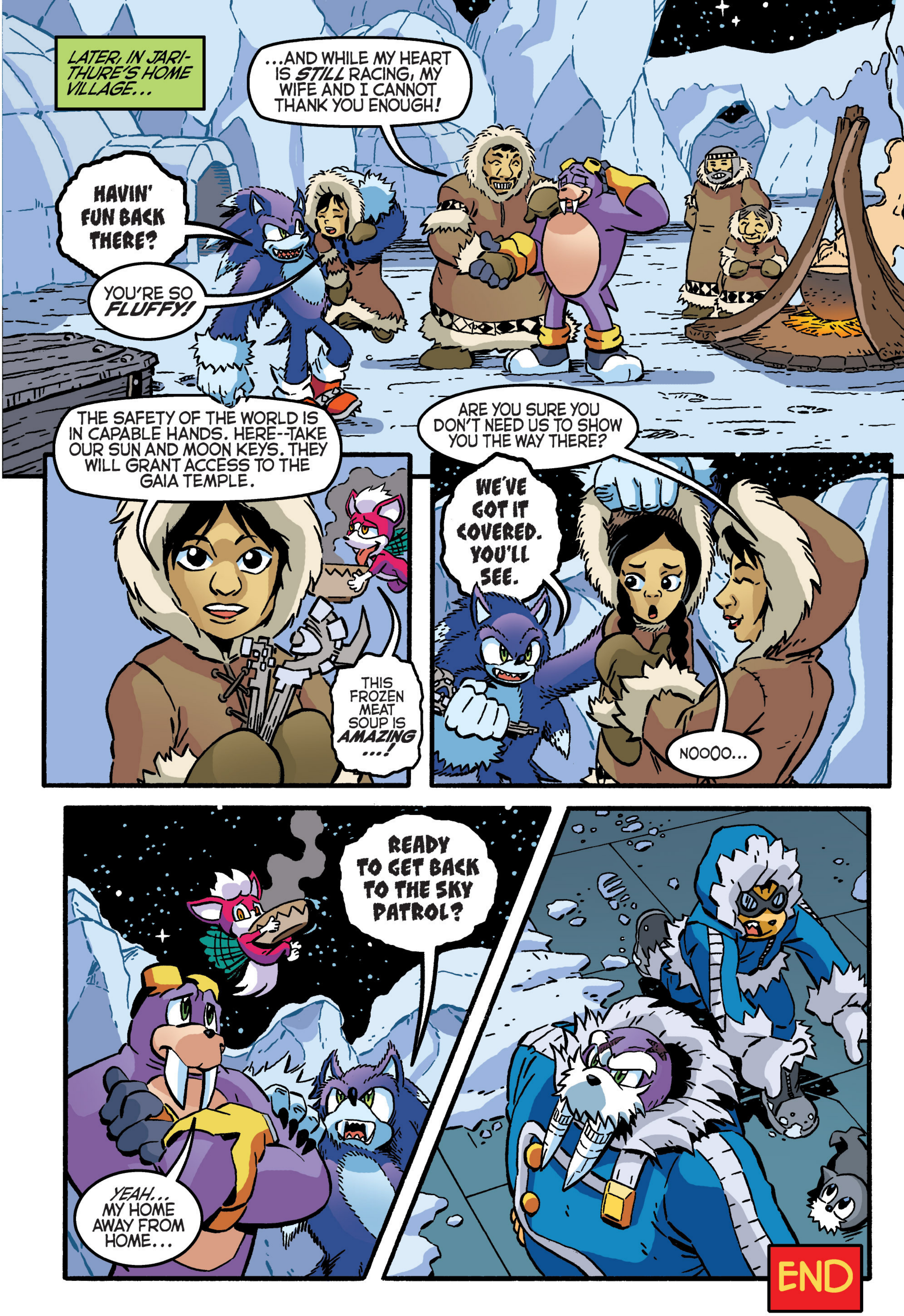

WHUD!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
Y-YES?
THAT DEPENDS --ARE YOU JARI-THURE AND SARIANNA?
THEN I'M *GREAT!*
HOW DID YOU KNOW TO LOOK FOR US HERE? *WHY* DID YOU COME FOR US?
ASIDE FROM I'M JUST COOL LIKE THAT? I'M TRYING...
...TO PUT THE WORLD BACK TOGETHER, AND THE OLD SAGE GREGORIOS SAID YOU TWO HAD THE GAIA KEYS I NEED TO DO IT!*
WHEN WE GOT TO YOUR VILLAGE, THE HEAD OF THE CLAN SAID YOU'D BEEN CAUGHT BY THE EGG ARMY.
*STH #272.
YES--BECAUSE *SOMEBODY* DECIDED TO GO OUT INTO THE NIGHT DESPITE KNOWING HOW DANGEROUS IT WAS!
EXCUSE ME? MAYBE I HAD TO PICK UP THE SLACK SINCE *SOMEBODY* WOULDN'T DO HIS DUTY!
B-BUT THERE'S *MONSTERS* ON THE ICE AT NIGHT! AND THE EGG ARMY! HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO FIGHT--?
YOU'RE THE CHIEF'S *SON!*
WHAT KIND OF EXAMPLE ARE YOU SETTING FOR OUR DAUGHTER? YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO PATROL THE VILLAGE AND PROTECT IT!
I'M SORRY...!
I'LL...GIVE YOU GUYS A MINUTE...

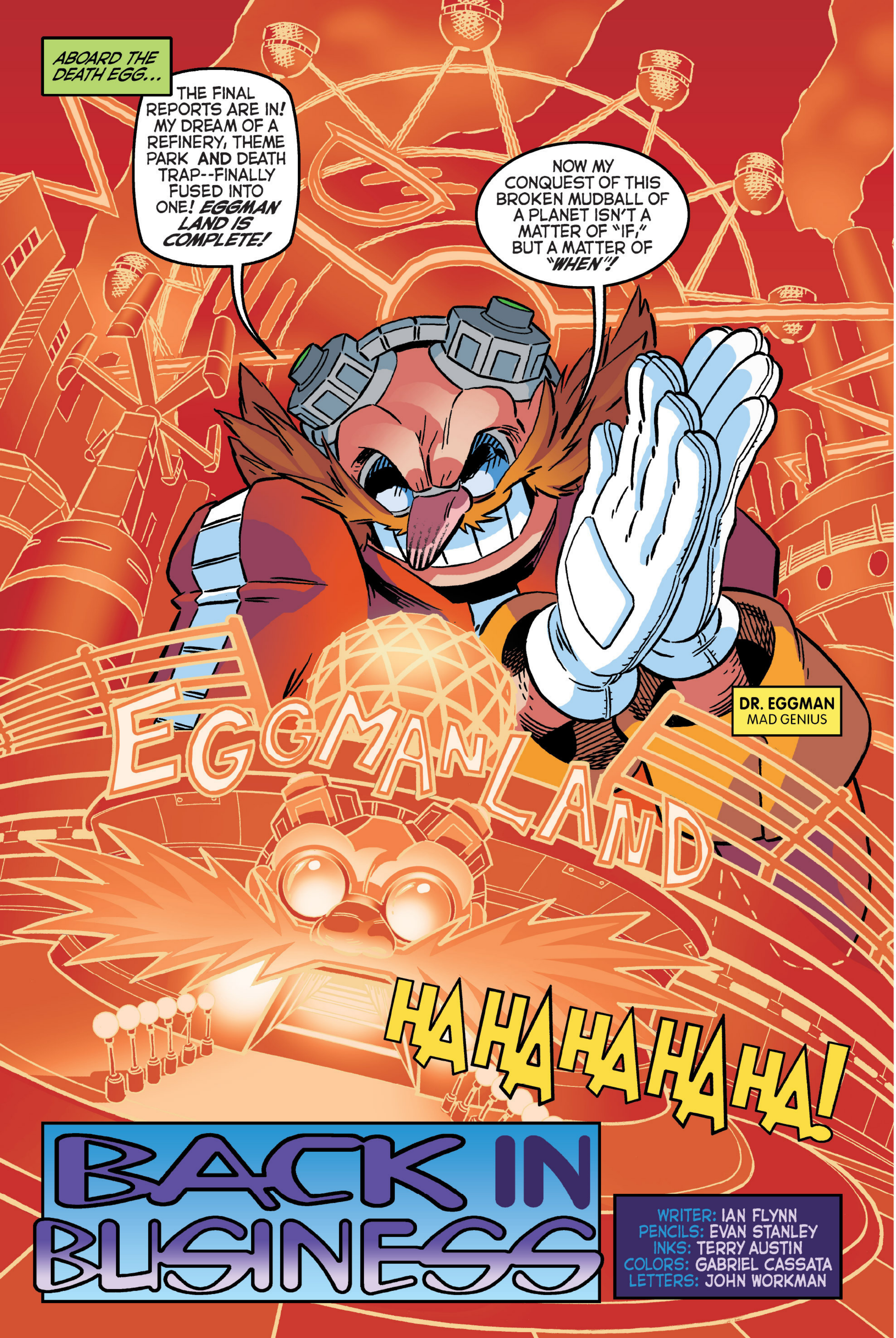

SO...WE'RE HALFWAY THROUGH THE PLAN. DIDN'T GO *EXACTLY* LIKE WE THOUGHT, BUT...
YO, ROTE?
I ALWAYS KNEW MY DAD WAS A JERK. I DIDN'T KNOW HE WAS A ***MONSTER...***
LOOK--EGGMAN TOOK OVER YOUR OLD VILLAGE, AND TUNDRA ROLLED OVER. EGGMAN TOOK OVER MOBOTROPOLIS, AND YOU ***FOUGHT BACK.*** YOUR DAD GAVE UP AND BECAME A CRONY. YOU ***RESISTED*** AND BECAME A ***FREEDOM FIGHTER.***
I KNOW IT HURTS 'CAUSE HE'S YOUR DAD. BUT YOU'RE ***TEN TIMES*** THE MAN HE IS. DON'T LET HIM DRAG YOU DOWN.
SNIFF YOU'RE RIGHT. SAVING THE WORLD COMES FIRST, ANYWAY.
YOU GOOD FOR NOW, BUD?
YEAH. I'M... *YEAH.*
YOU ACT LIKE GETTING CAUGHT AND IMPRISONED WITH US WAS PART OF YOUR PLAN.
IT WAS! SAVES US THE TROUBLE OF SEARCHING FOR YOU.
THEN HOW ARE WE GOING TO GET OUT OF HERE?
Y'KNOW...


...FOR A FROZEN BASE, THEY HAVE A *TON* OF POPSICLES! ALSO, THEY DON'T WATCH OVER THEIR CARD KEYS WELL.
CHIP HERE PRETENDED TO RUN AWAY, ONLY TO SNEAK IN WITH THE EGG ARMY.
THAT'S IMPRESSIVE... BUT THE FLOORS ARE KEPT ICY ON PURPOSE.
IT WILL BE DIFFICULT TO RUN.
ROTOR CAN MOVE ON THE ICE, NO PROBLEM.
AND ALL *I* NEED-- BRACE YOURSELVES...
...ARE SOME BIG STOMPIN' CLEATS!
WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU TO UNLOCK THE DOORS SO WE DON'T LOSE MOMENTUM.
I ALREADY MEMORIZED THE WAY TO THE HANGAR!
THEN LET'S GO!




PSHK!
GET US A RIDE OUTTA HERE!
ON IT!
I'M THE ONE OPENING THE DOORS, REMEMBER?
SO OPEN THE HANGAR DOORS, WHY DON'TCHA?
MAYBE I WILL! HAHA!
A CONVERTIBLE? IN *THIS* WEATHER?
NOT IN THE MOOD, BIG BLUE!
HAHAHA! WOO! WE DID IT!


LATER, IN JARI-THURE'S HOME VILLAGE...
...AND WHILE MY HEART IS *STILL* RACING, MY WIFE AND I CANNOT THANK YOU ENOUGH!
HAVIN' FUN BACK THERE?
YOU'RE SO *FLUFFY!*
THE SAFETY OF THE WORLD IS IN CAPABLE HANDS. HERE--TAKE OUR SUN AND MOON KEYS. THEY WILL GRANT ACCESS TO THE GAIA TEMPLE.
THIS FROZEN MEAT SOUP IS *AMAZING...!*
ARE YOU SURE YOU DON'T NEED US TO SHOW YOU THE WAY THERE?
WE'VE GOT IT COVERED. YOU'LL SEE.
NOOOO...
READY TO GET BACK TO THE SKY PATROL?
YEAH... MY HOME AWAY FROM HOME...
END


ABOARD THE DEATH EGG...
THE FINAL REPORTS ARE IN! MY DREAM OF A REFINERY, THEME PARK AND DEATH TRAP--FINALLY FUSED INTO ONE! EGGMAN LAND IS COMPLETE!
NOW MY CONQUEST OF THIS BROKEN MUDBALL OF A PLANET ISN'T A MATTER OF "IF," BUT A MATTER OF "WHEN"!
DR. EGGMAN
MAD GENIUS
EGGMANLAND
HAHAHAHAHAHA!

BACK IN BUSINESS

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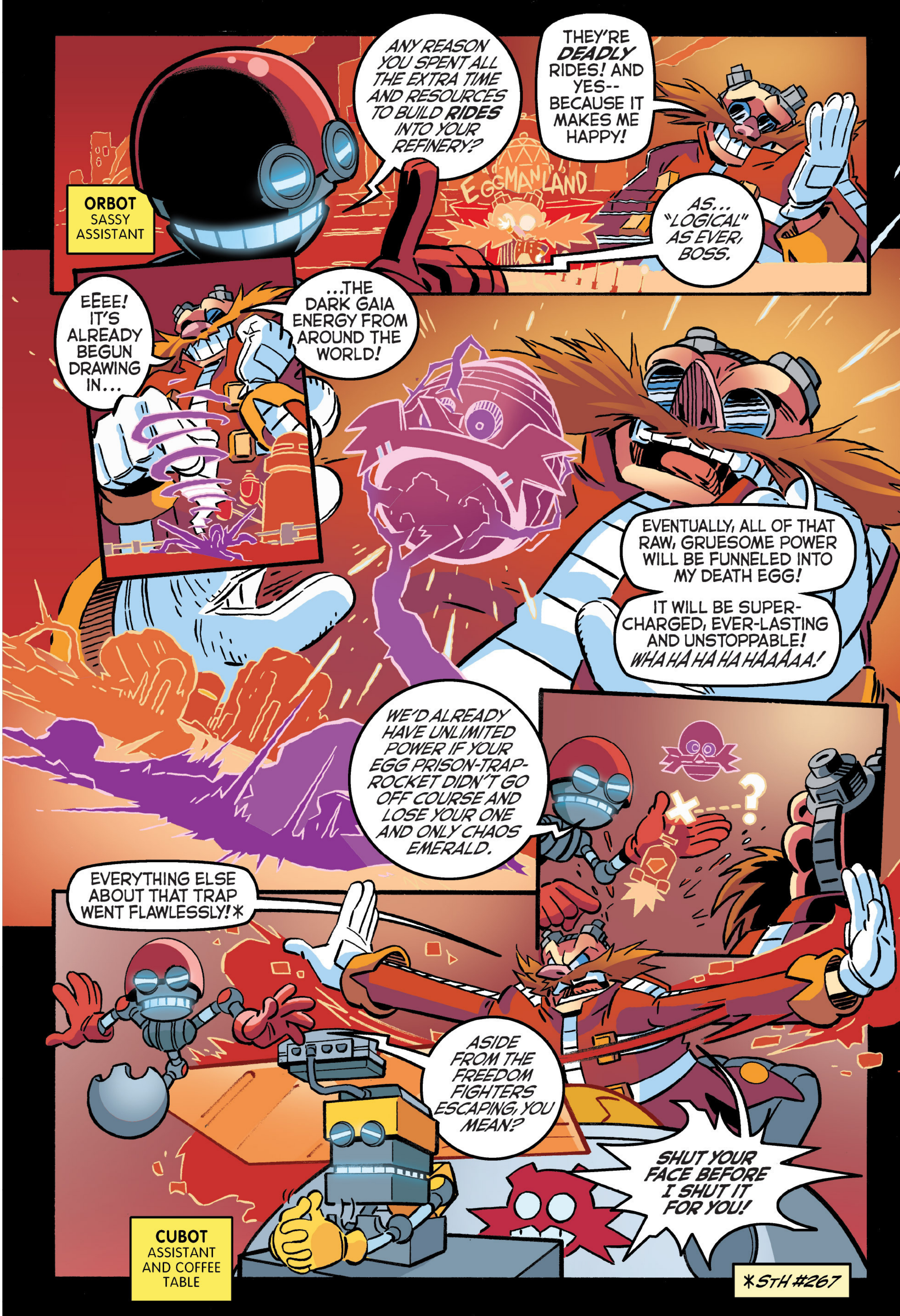
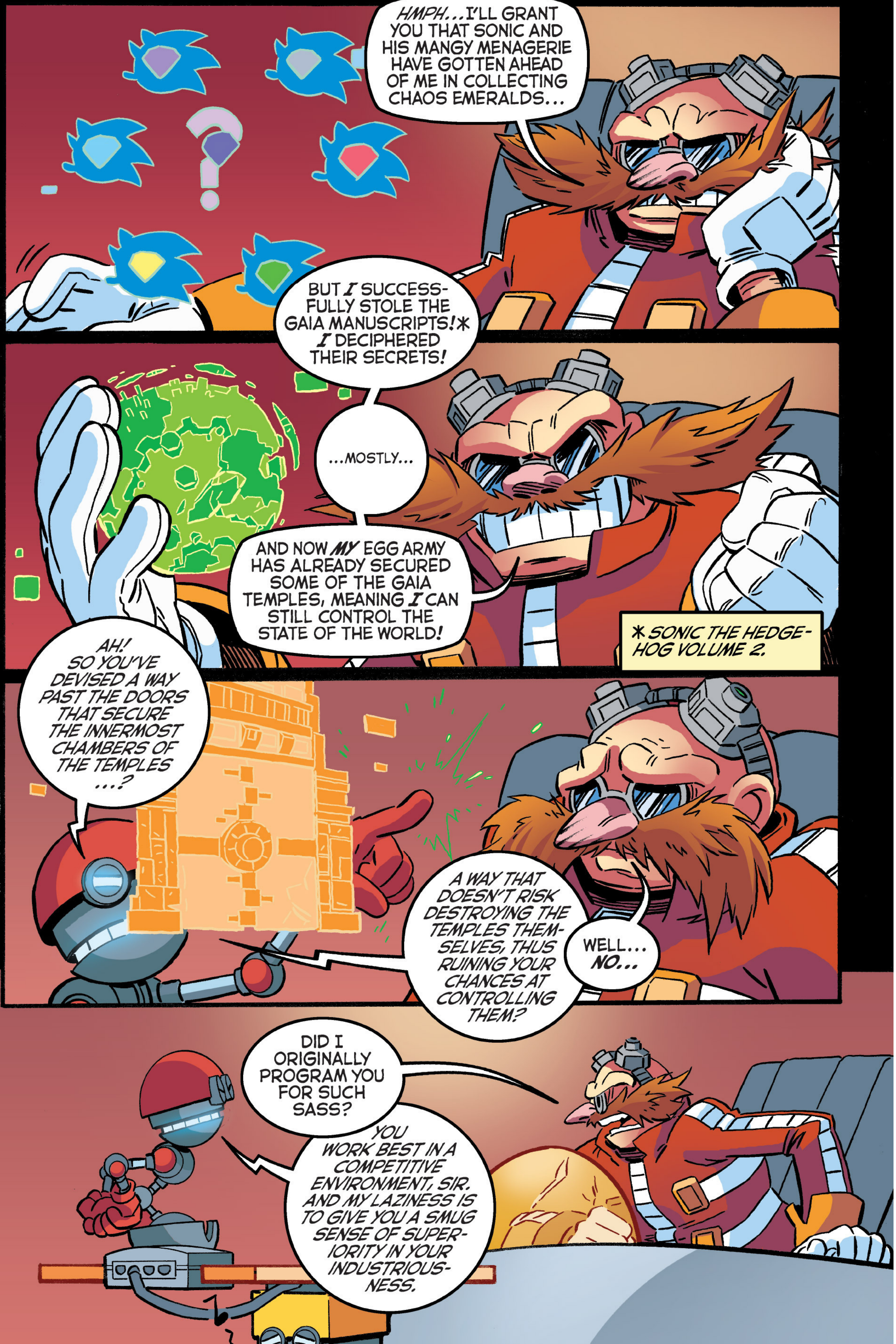
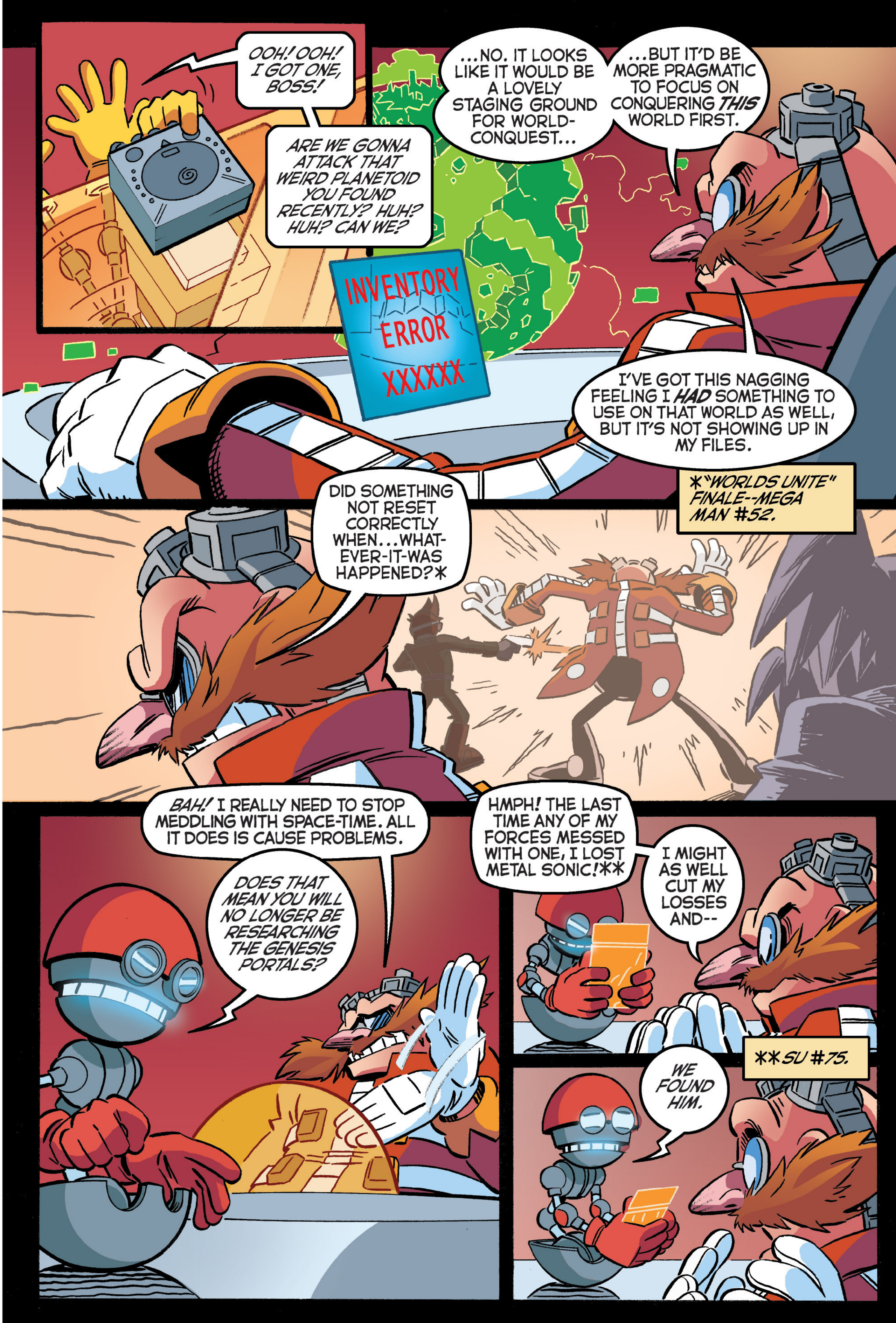
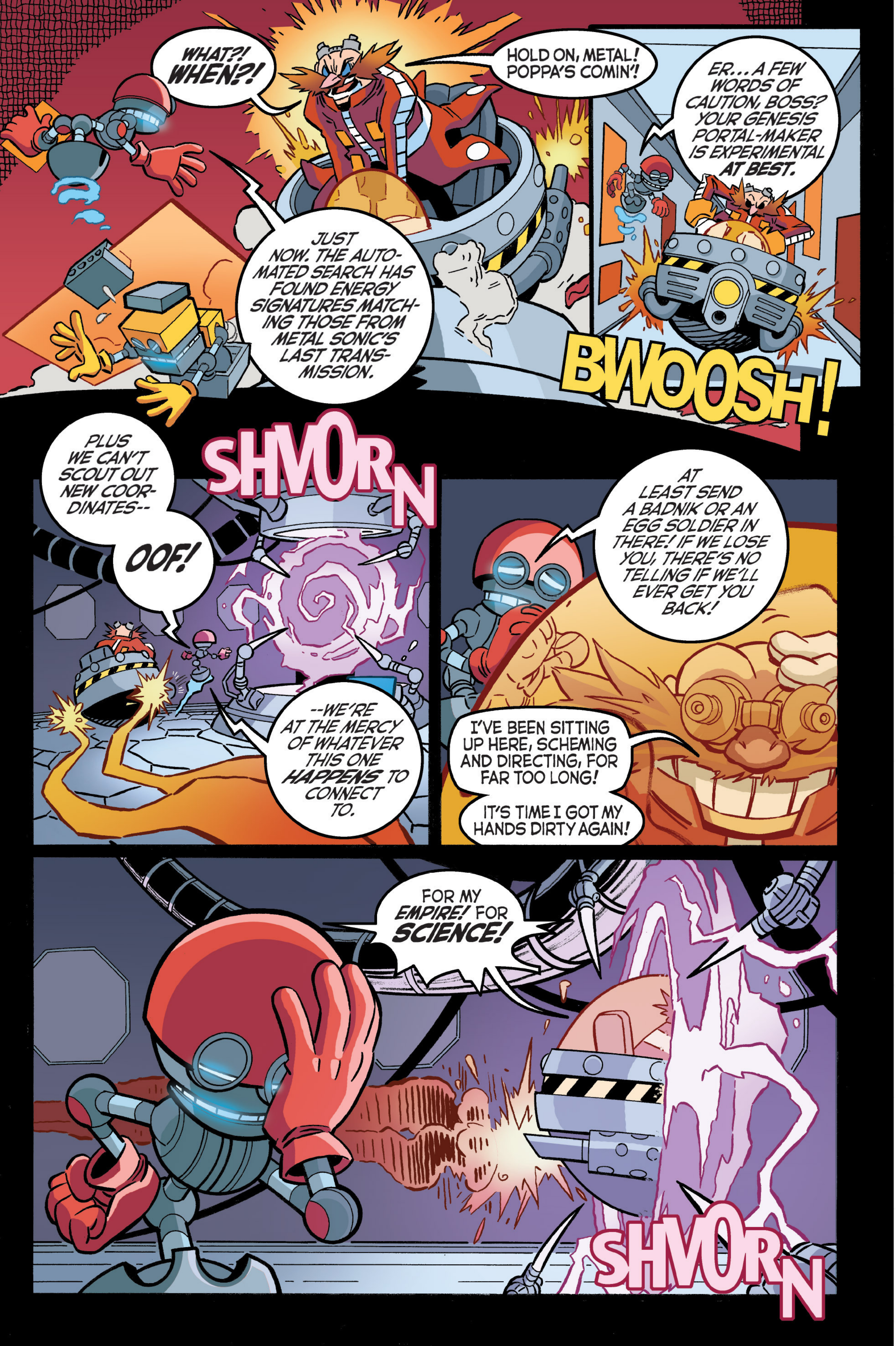
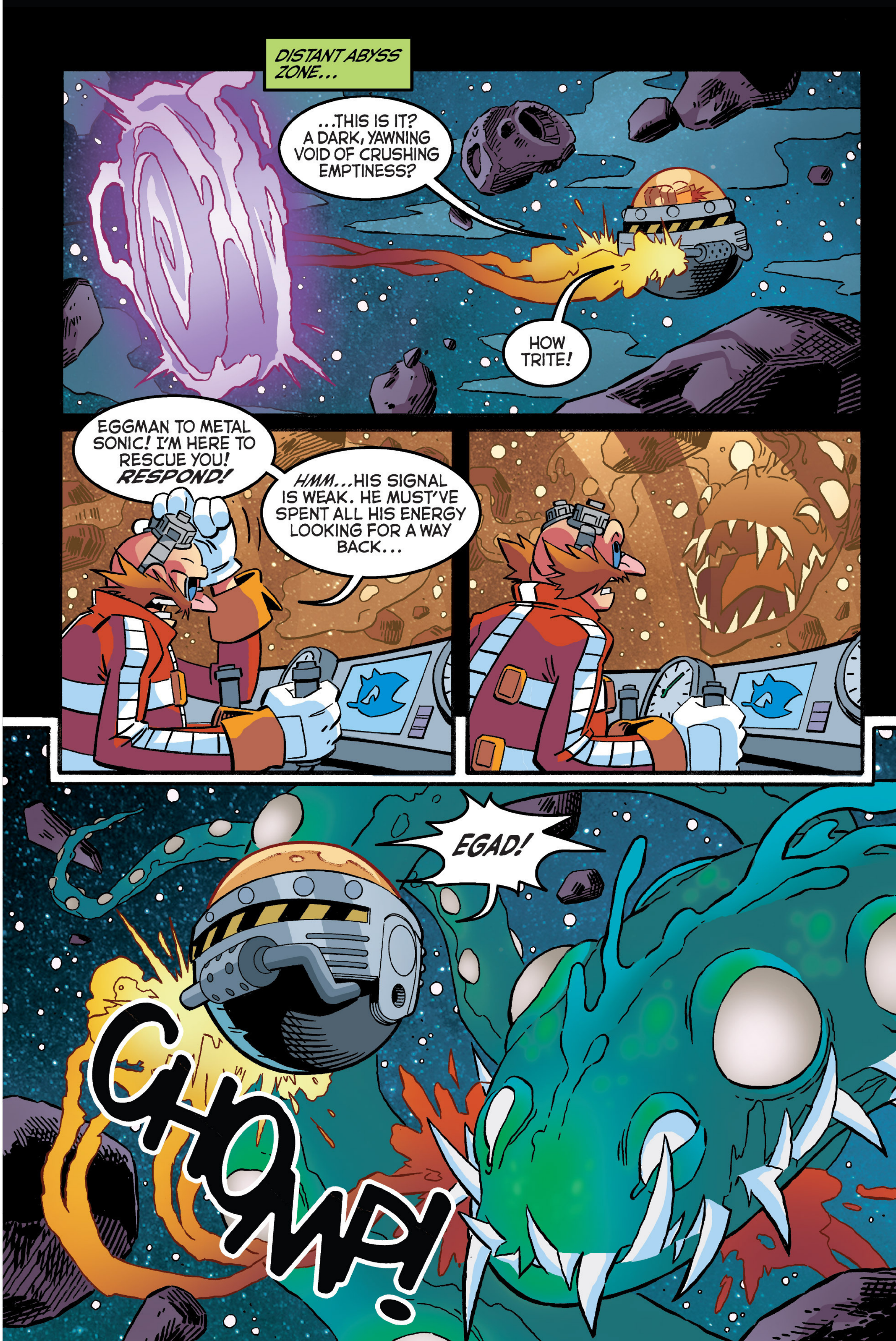
INKS: TERRY AUSTIN
COLORS: GABRIEL CASSATA
LETTERS: JOHN WORKMAN

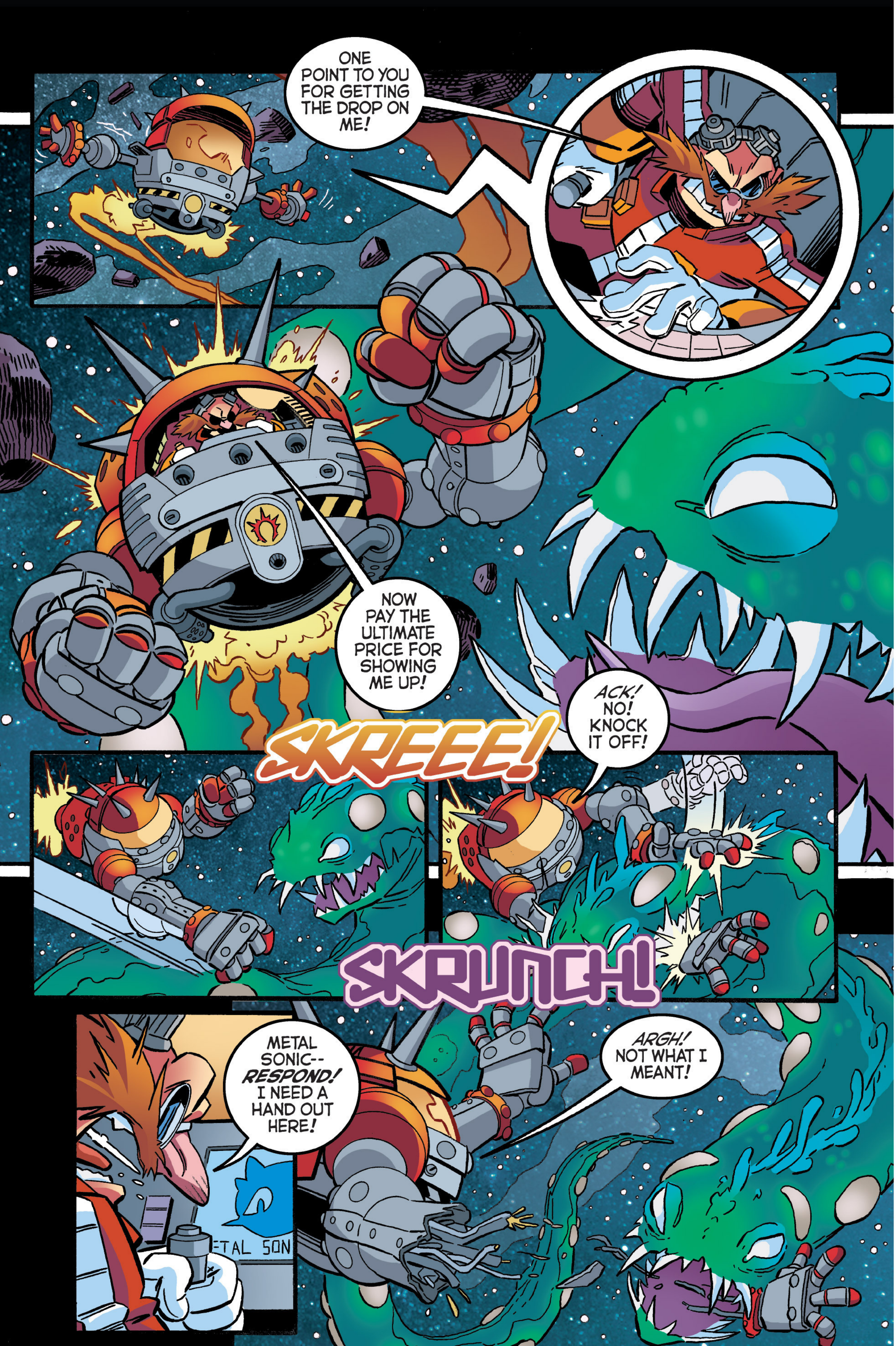

ORBOT
SASSY ASSISTANT
ANY REASON YOU SPENT ALL THE EXTRA TIME AND RESOURCES TO BUILD *RIDES* INTO YOUR REFINERY?
THEY'RE ***DEADLY*** RIDES! AND YES-- BECAUSE IT MAKES ME HAPPY!
EGGMANLAND
AS... "LOGICAL" AS EVER, BOSS.
EEEE! IT'S ALREADY BEGUN DRAWING IN...
...THE DARK GAIA ENERGY FROM AROUND THE WORLD!
EVENTUALLY, ALL OF THAT RAW, GRUESOME POWER WILL BE FUNNELED INTO MY DEATH EGG!
IT WILL BE SUPER-CHARGED, EVER-LASTING AND UNSTOPPABLE! *WHA HA HA HA HAAAAA!*
WE'D ALREADY HAVE UNLIMITED POWER IF YOUR EGG PRISON-TRAP-ROCKET DIDN'T GO OFF COURSE AND LOSE YOUR ONE AND ONLY CHAOS EMERALD.
EVERYTHING ELSE ABOUT THAT TRAP WENT FLAWLESSLY!*
ASIDE FROM THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS ESCAPING, YOU MEAN?
SHUT YOUR FACE BEFORE I SHUT IT FOR YOU!
CUBOT
ASSISTANT AND COFFEE TABLE
*StH #267

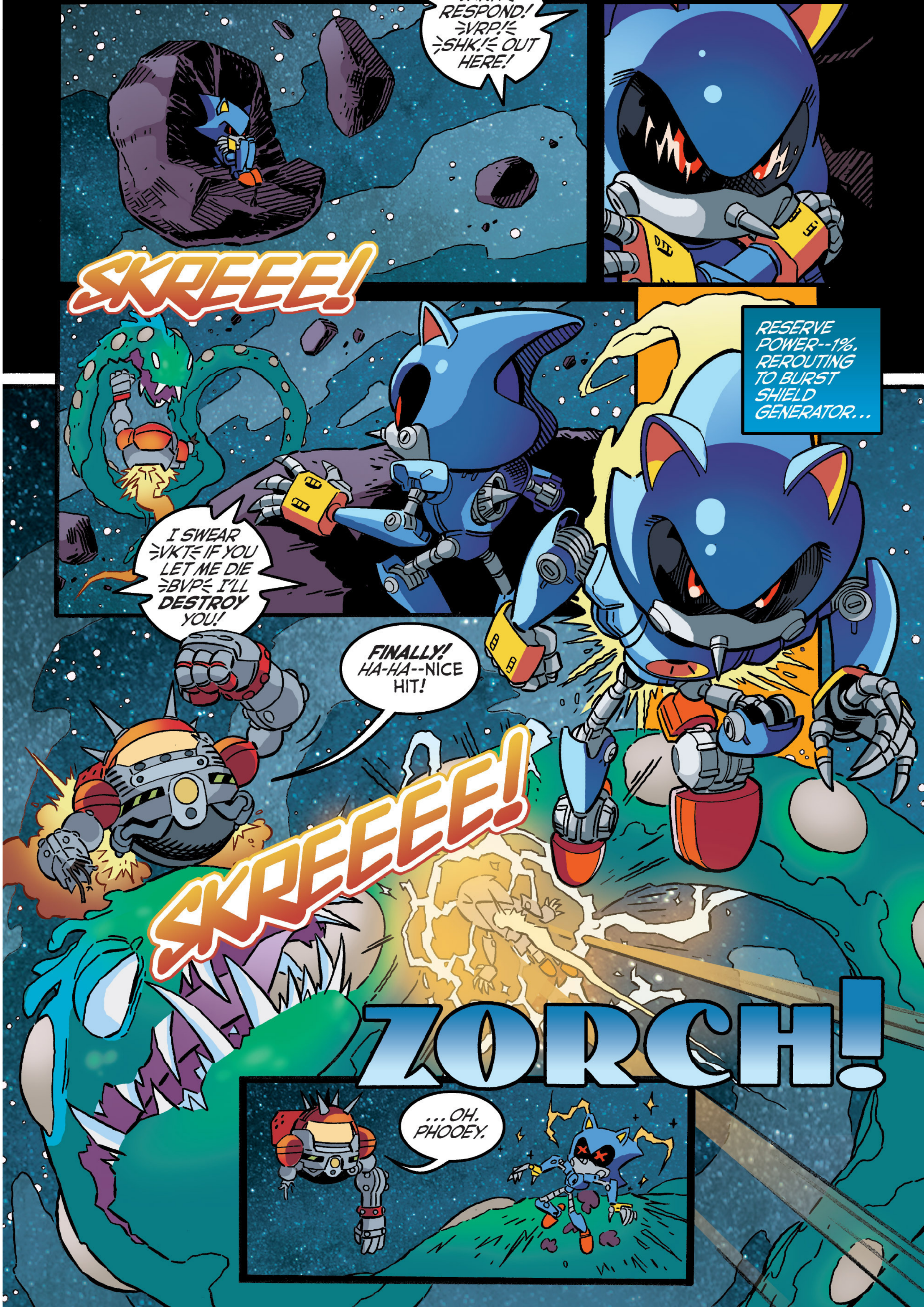

HMPH...I'LL GRANT YOU THAT SONIC AND HIS MANGY MENAGERIE HAVE GOTTEN AHEAD OF ME IN COLLECTING CHAOS EMERALDS...
BUT *I* SUCCESSFULLY STOLE THE GAIA MANUSCRIPTS!*
I DECIPHERED THEIR SECRETS!
...MOSTLY...
AND NOW *MY* EGG ARMY HAS ALREADY SECURED SOME OF THE GAIA TEMPLES, MEANING *I* CAN STILL CONTROL THE STATE OF THE WORLD!
*SONIC THE HEDGEHOG VOLUME 2.
AH! SO YOU'VE DEVISED A WAY PAST THE DOORS THAT SECURE THE INNERMOST CHAMBERS OF THE TEMPLES ...?
A WAY THAT DOESN'T RISK DESTROYING THE TEMPLES THEMSELVES, THUS RUINING YOUR CHANCES AT CONTROLLING THEM?
WELL... *NO...*
DID I ORIGINALLY PROGRAM YOU FOR SUCH SASS?
YOU WORK BEST IN A COMPETITIVE ENVIRONMENT, SIR. AND MY LAZINESS IS TO GIVE YOU A SMUG SENSE OF SUPERIORITY IN YOUR INDUSTRIOUSNESS.

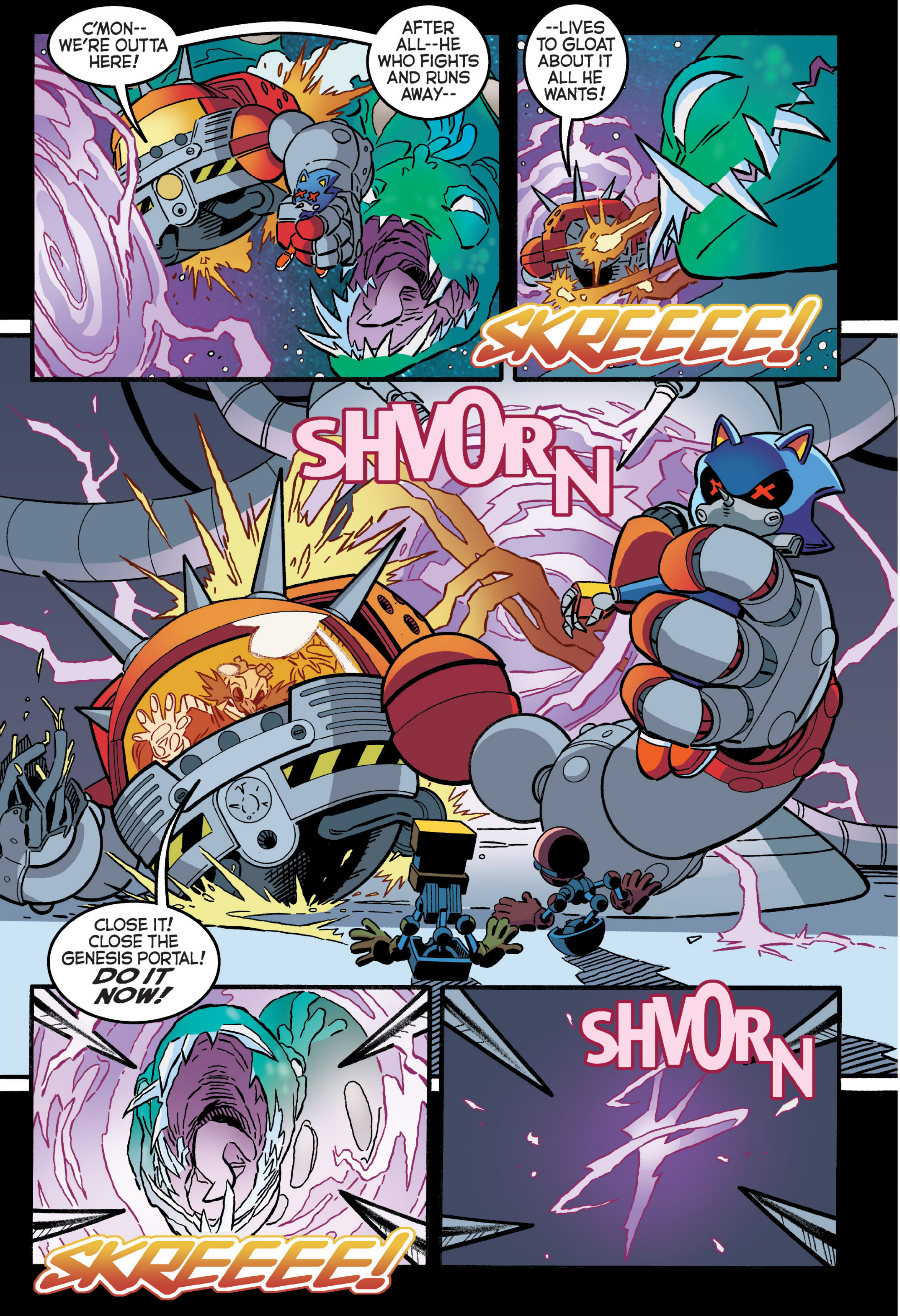

OOH! OOH! I GOT ONE, BOSS!
ARE WE GONNA ATTACK THAT WEIRD PLANETOID YOU FOUND RECENTLY? HUH? HUH? CAN WE?
INVENTORY ERROR XXXXXX
...NO. IT LOOKS LIKE IT WOULD BE A LOVELY STAGING GROUND FOR WORLD-CONQUEST...
...BUT IT'D BE MORE PRAGMATIC TO FOCUS ON CONQUERING *THIS* WORLD FIRST.
I'VE GOT THIS NAGGING FEELING I *HAD* SOMETHING TO USE ON THAT WORLD AS WELL, BUT IT'S NOT SHOWING UP IN MY FILES.
DID SOMETHING NOT RESET CORRECTLY WHEN...WHAT-EVER-IT-WAS HAPPENED?*
*"WORLDS UNITE" FINALE--MEGA MAN #52.
BAH! I REALLY NEED TO STOP MEDDLING WITH SPACE-TIME. ALL IT DOES IS CAUSE PROBLEMS.
DOES THAT MEAN YOU WILL NO LONGER BE RESEARCHING THE GENESIS PORTALS?
HMPH! THE LAST TIME ANY OF MY FORCES MESSED WITH ONE, I LOST METAL SONIC!**
I MIGHT AS WELL CUT MY LOSSES AND--
**SU #75.
WE FOUND HIM.

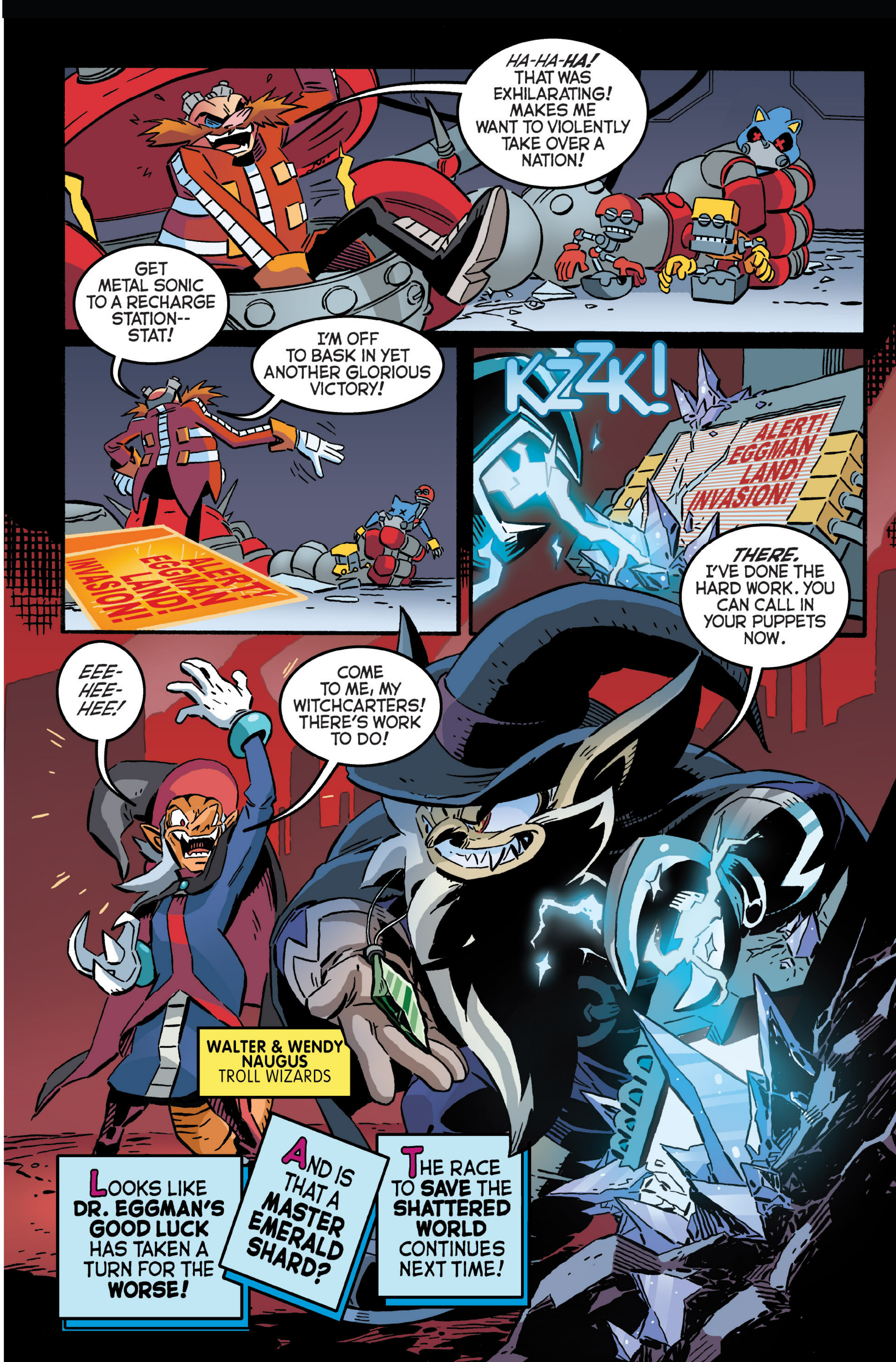

WHAT?! WHEN?!
JUST NOW. THE AUTOMATED SEARCH HAS FOUND ENERGY SIGNATURES MATCHING THOSE FROM METAL SONIC'S LAST TRANSMISSION.
HOLD ON, METAL! POPPA'S COMIN'!
ER... A FEW WORDS OF CAUTION, BOSS? YOUR GENESIS PORTAL-MAKER IS EXPERIMENTAL AT BEST.
BWOOSH!
SHVORN
PLUS WE CAN'T SCOUT OUT NEW COORDINATES--
OOF!
--WE'RE AT THE MERCY OF WHATEVER THIS ONE HAPPENS TO CONNECT TO.
AT LEAST SEND A BADNIK OR AN EGG SOLDIER IN THERE! IF WE LOSE YOU, THERE'S NO TELLING IF WE'LL EVER GET YOU BACK!
I'VE BEEN SITTING UP HERE, SCHEMING AND DIRECTING, FOR FAR TOO LONG!
IT'S TIME I GOT MY HANDS DIRTY AGAIN!
FOR MY EMPIRE! FOR SCIENCE!
SHVORN


DISTANT ABYSS ZONE...
...THIS IS IT? A DARK, YAWNING VOID OF CRUSHING EMPTINESS?
HOW TRITE!
EGGMAN TO METAL SONIC! I'M HERE TO RESCUE YOU! RESPOND!
HMM...HIS SIGNAL IS WEAK. HE MUST'VE SPENT ALL HIS ENERGY LOOKING FOR A WAY BACK...
EGAD!
CHOMP!


ONE POINT TO YOU FOR GETTING THE DROP ON ME!
NOW PAY THE ULTIMATE PRICE FOR SHOWING ME UP!
SKREEEE!
ACK! NO! KNOCK IT OFF!
SKRUNCH!
METAL SONIC-- RESPOND! I NEED A HAND OUT HERE!
ETAL SON
ARGH! NOT WHAT I MEANT!

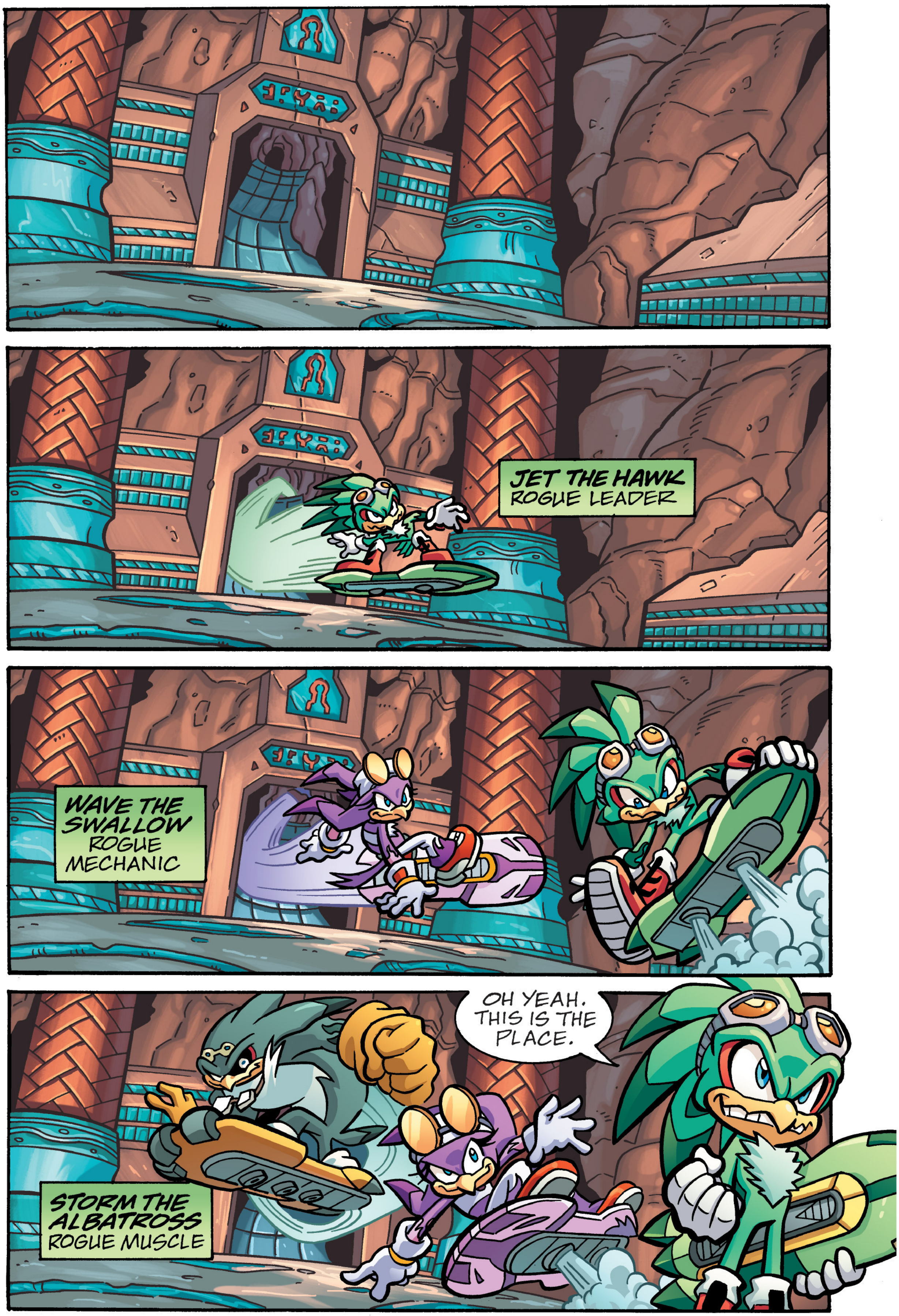

⋛KRK⋚ RESPOND! ⋛VRP!⋚ ⋛SHK!⋚ OUT HERE!
SKREEE!
RESERVE POWER--1%. REROUTING TO BURST SHIELD GENERATOR...
I SWEAR ⋛VKT⋚ IF YOU LET ME DIE ⋛BVP⋚ I'LL **DESTROY** YOU!
FINALLY! HA-HA--NICE HIT!
SKREEEEE!
ZORCH!
...OH. PHOOEY.


C'MON-- WE'RE OUTTA HERE!
AFTER ALL--HE WHO FIGHTS AND RUNS AWAY--
--LIVES TO GLOAT ABOUT IT ALL HE WANTS!
SKREEEEE!
SHVORN
CLOSE IT! CLOSE THE GENESIS PORTAL! *DO IT NOW!*
SHVORN
SKREEEEE!


HA-HA-HA! THAT WAS EXHILARATING! MAKES ME WANT TO VIOLENTLY TAKE OVER A NATION!
GET METAL SONIC TO A RECHARGE STATION-- STAT!
I'M OFF TO BASK IN YET ANOTHER GLORIOUS VICTORY!
ALERT! EGGMAN LAND! INVASION!
KZZK!
ALERT! EGGMAN LAND! INVASION!
THERE. I'VE DONE THE HARD WORK. YOU CAN CALL IN YOUR PUPPETS NOW.
EEE-HEE-HEE!
COME TO ME, MY WITCHCARTERS! THERE'S WORK TO DO!
WALTER & WENDY NAUGUS TROLL WIZARDS
LOOKS LIKE DR. EGGMAN'S GOOD LUCK HAS TAKEN A TURN FOR THE WORSE!
AND IS THAT A MASTER EMERALD SHARD?
THE RACE TO SAVE THE SHATTERED WORLD CONTINUES NEXT TIME!

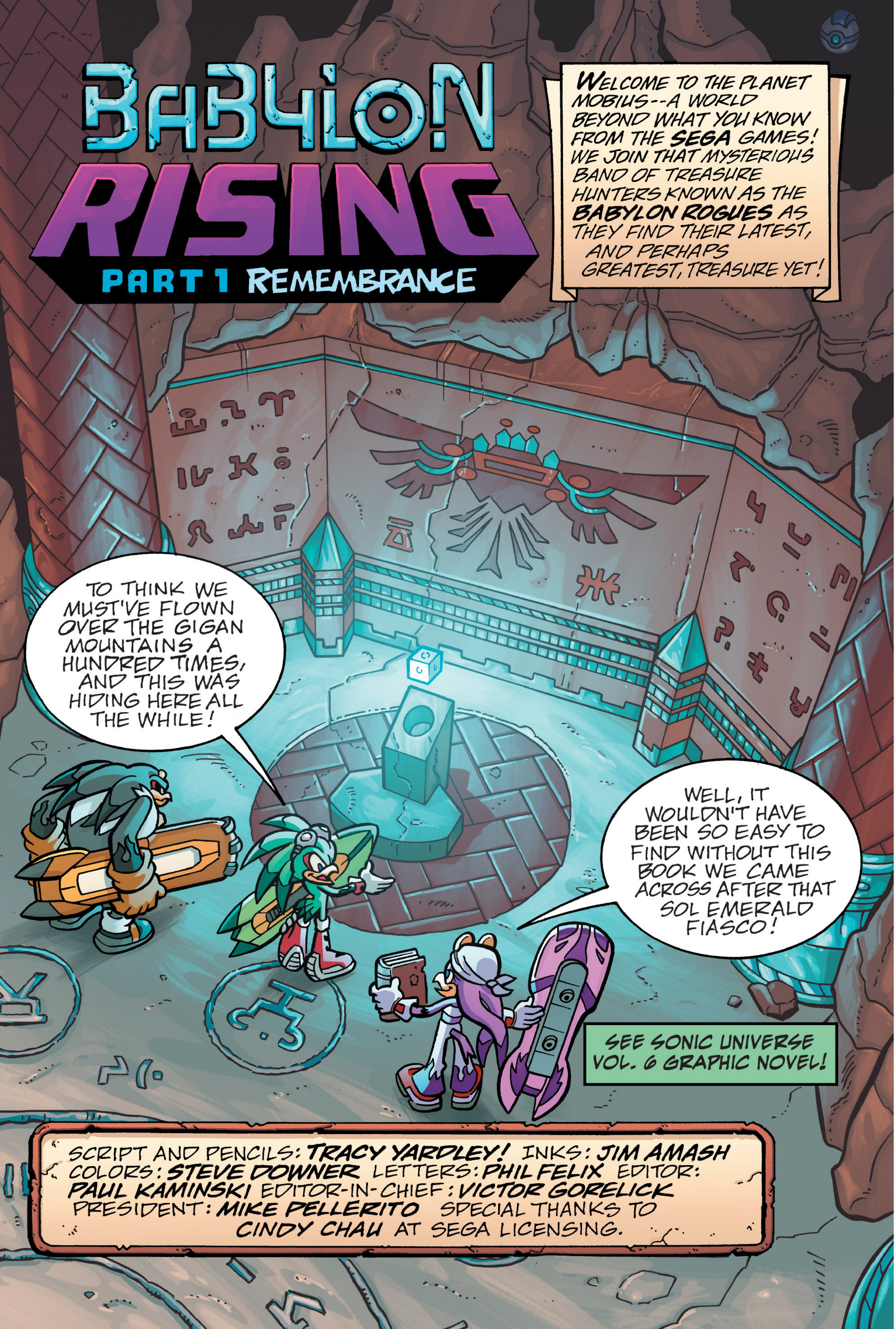
PIN-UP PAGE!

Tracy Yardley!
Hunzeker


JET THE HAWK
ROGUE LEADER
WAVE THE SWALLOW
ROGUE MECHANIC
STORM THE ALBATROSS
ROGUE MUSCLE
OH YEAH. THIS IS THE PLACE.

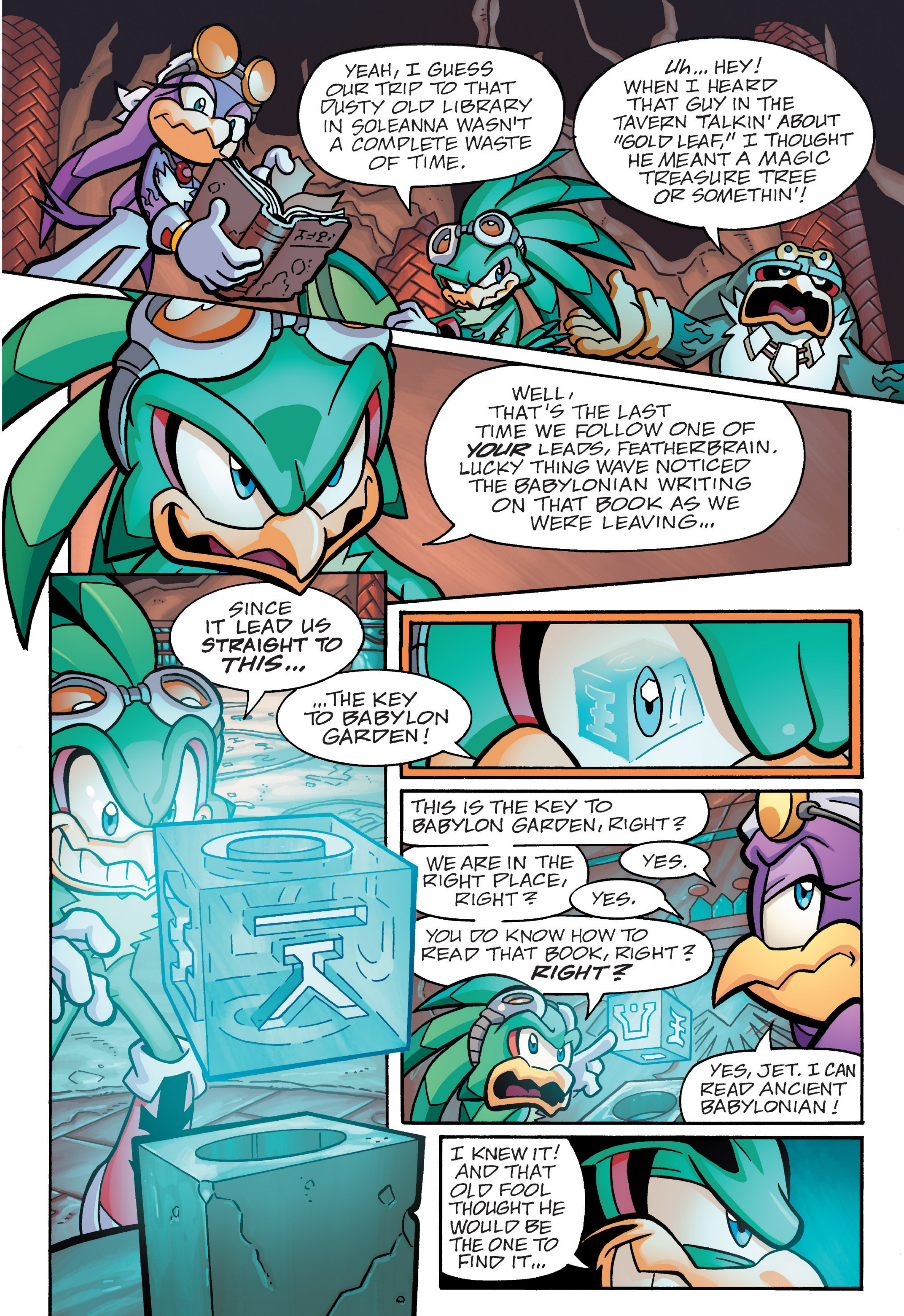
BABYLON RISING

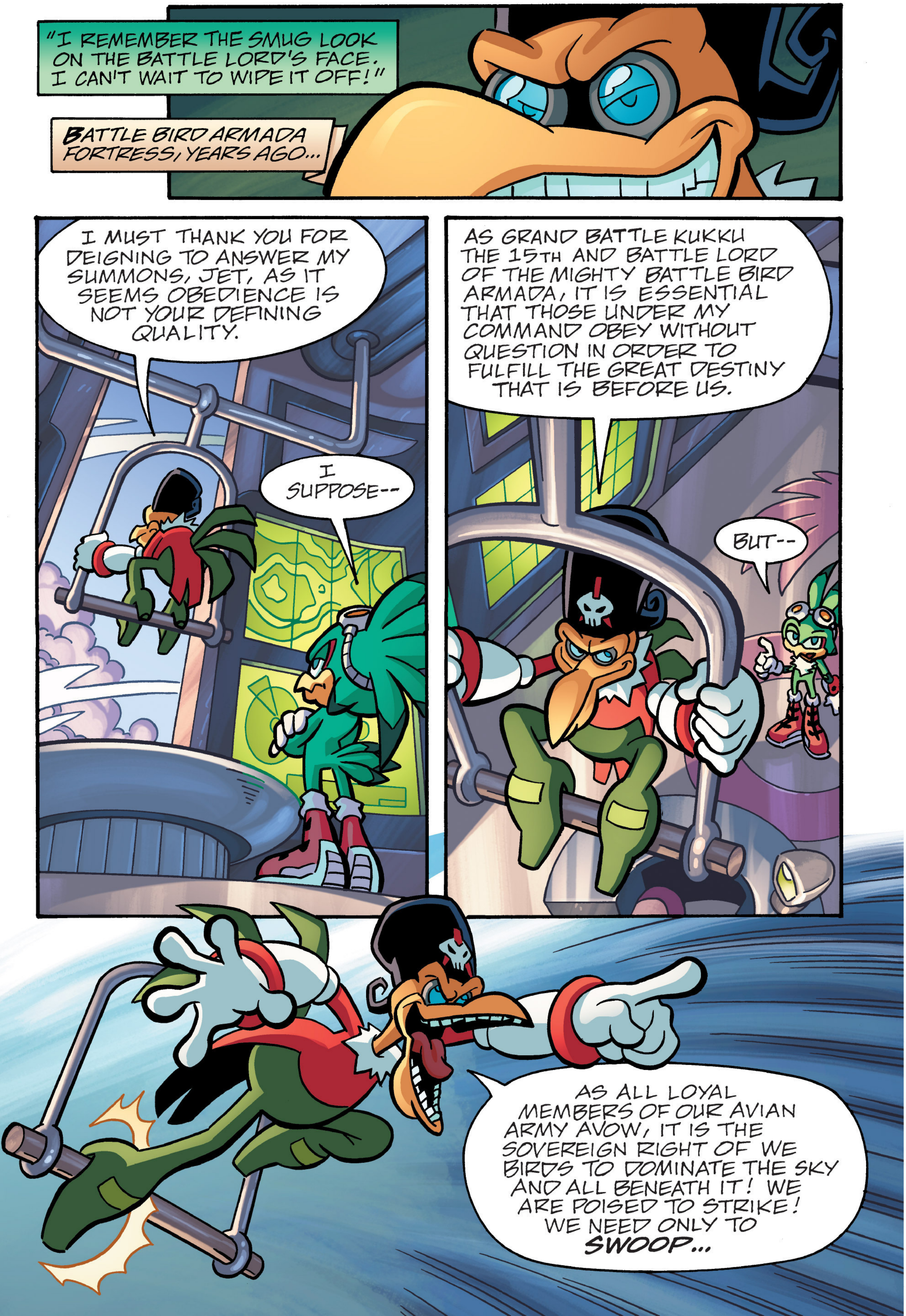
PART 1 REMEMBRANCE

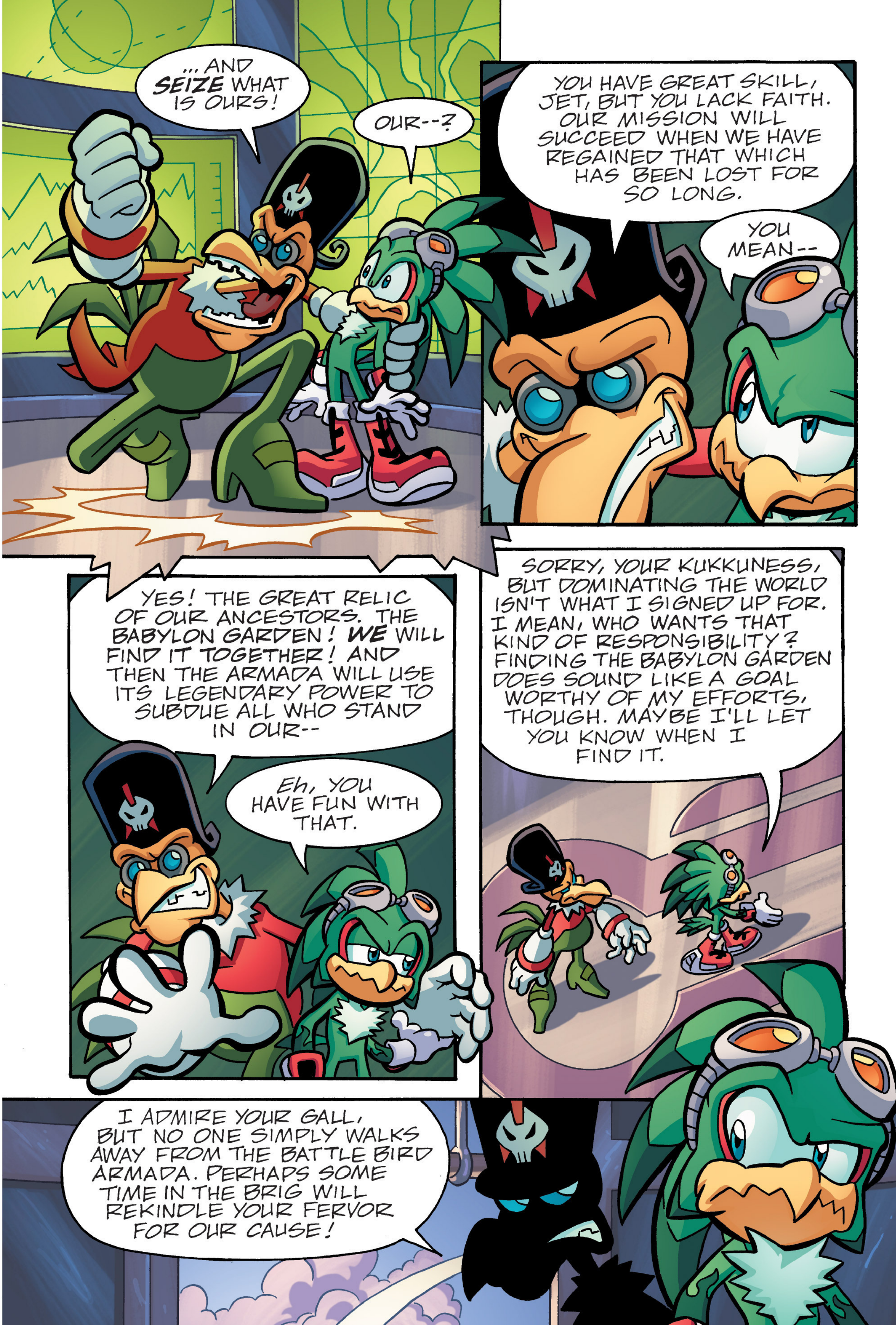


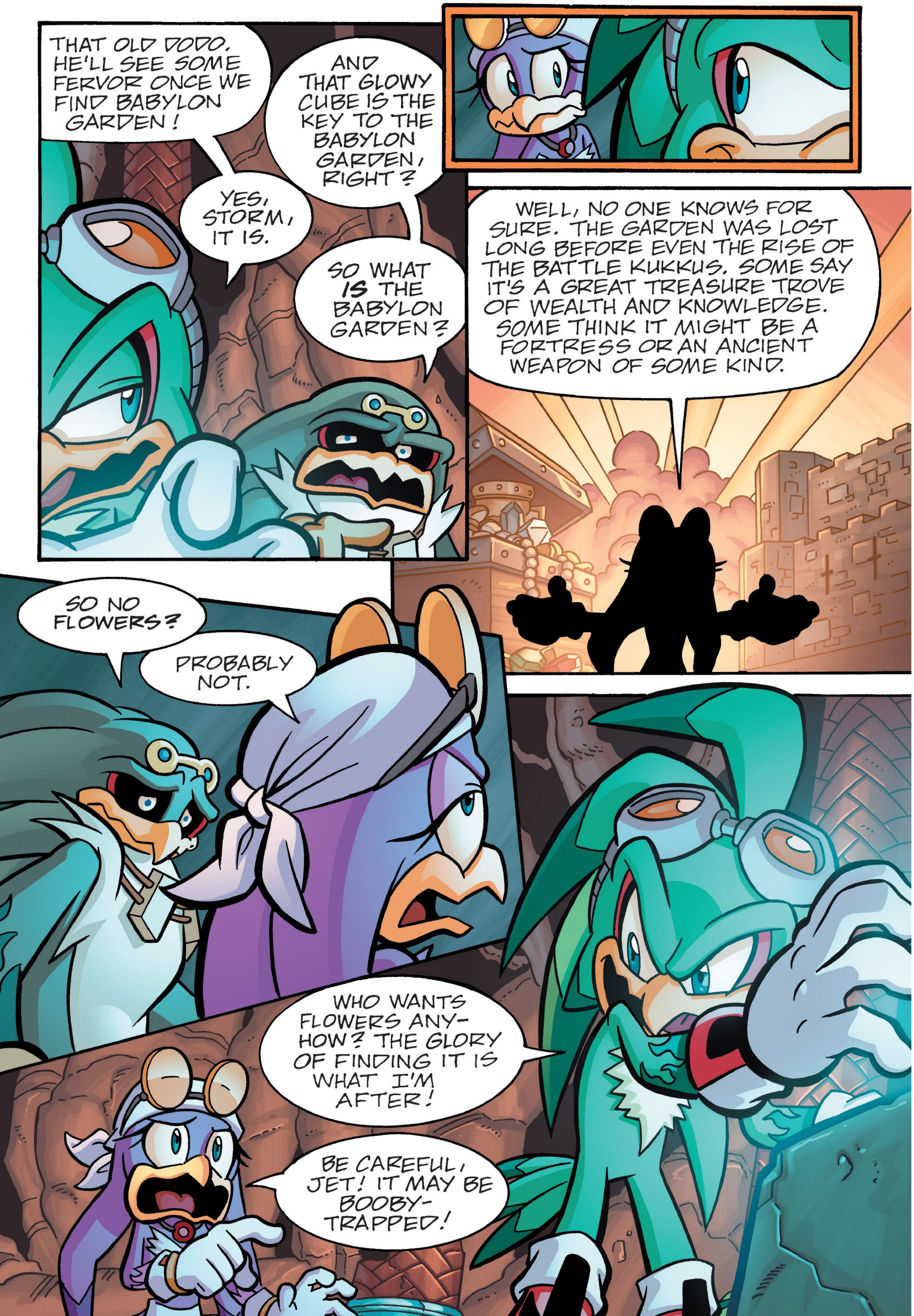
WELCOME TO THE PLANET MOBIUS--A WORLD BEYOND WHAT YOU KNOW FROM THE **SEGA** GAMES! WE JOIN THAT MYSTERIOUS BAND OF TREASURE HUNTERS KNOWN AS THE **BABYLON ROGUES** AS THEY FIND THEIR LATEST, AND PERHAPS GREATEST, TREASURE YET!
TO THINK WE MUST'VE FLOWN OVER THE GIGAN MOUNTAINS A HUNDRED TIMES, AND THIS WAS HIDING HERE ALL THE WHILE!
WELL, IT WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN SO EASY TO FIND WITHOUT THIS BOOK WE CAME ACROSS AFTER THAT SOL EMERALD FIASCO!
SEE SONIC UNIVERSE VOL. 6 GRAPHIC NOVEL!

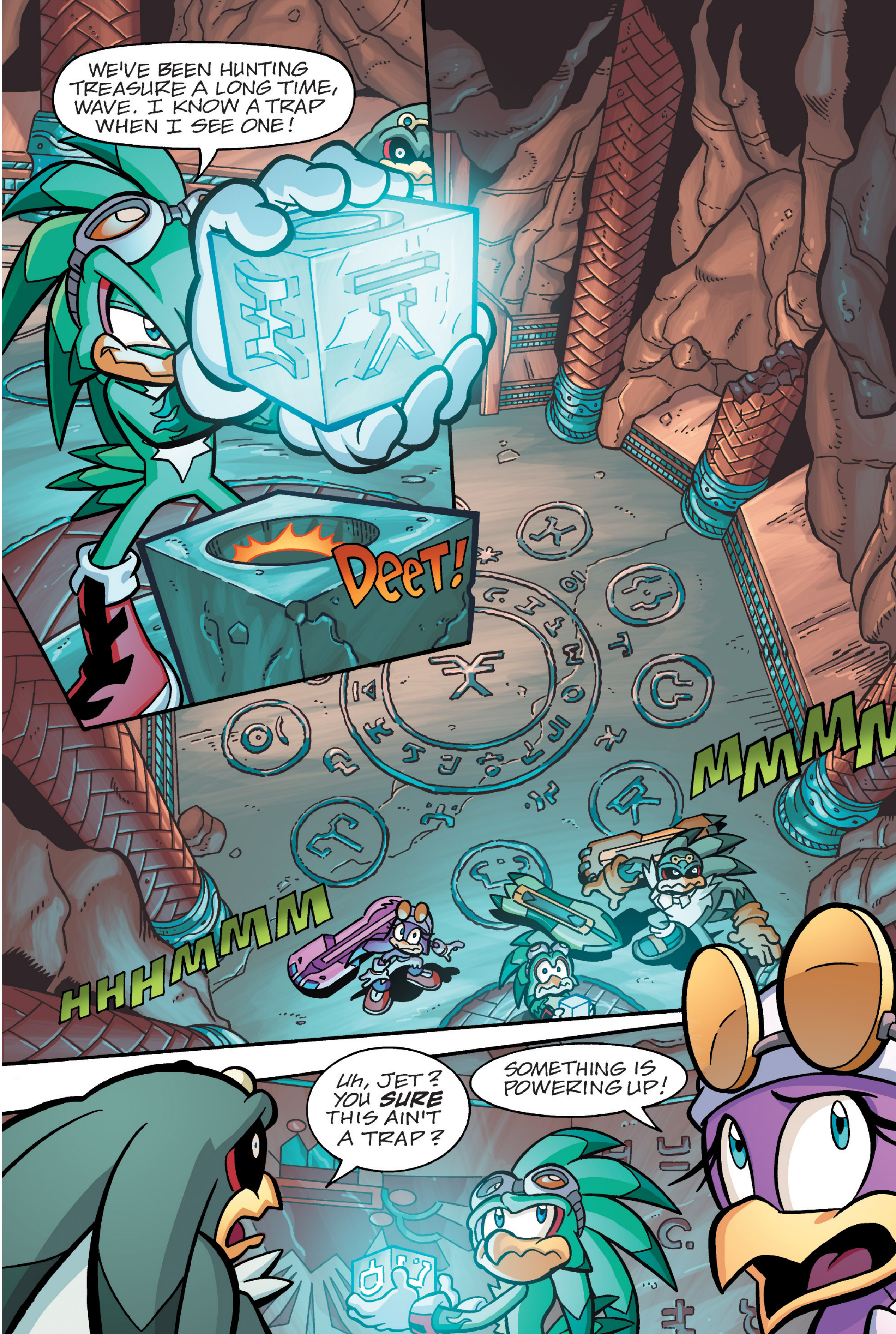
SCRIPT AND PENCILS: **TRACY YARDLEY!** INKS: **JIM AMASH** COLORS: **STEVE DOWNER** LETTERS: **PHIL FELIX** EDITOR: **PAUL KAMINSKI** EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: **VICTOR GORELICK** PRESIDENT: **MIKE PELLERITO** SPECIAL THANKS TO **CINDY CHAU** AT SEGA LICENSING.

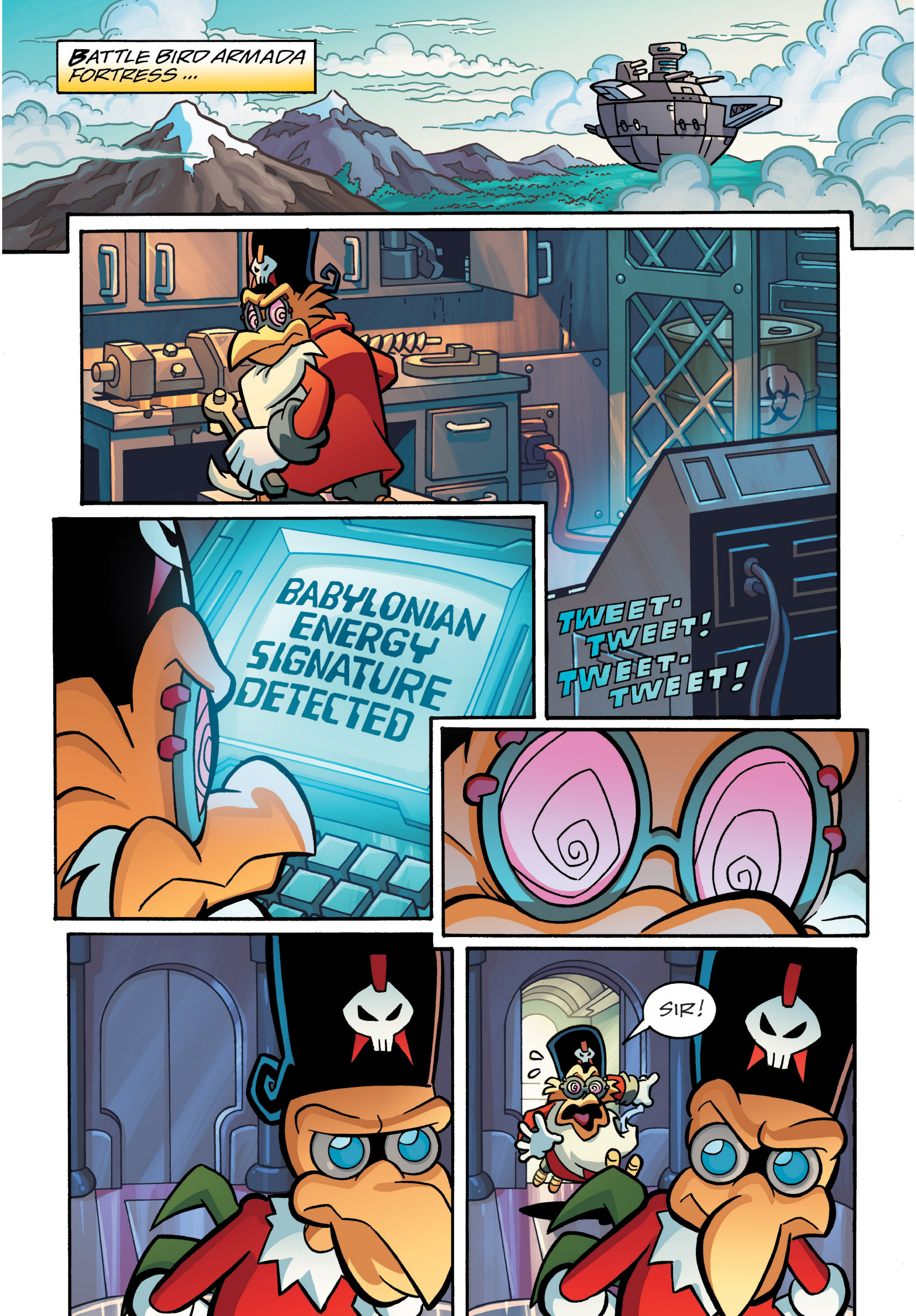

YEAH, I GUESS OUR TRIP TO THAT DUSTY OLD LIBRARY IN SOLEANNA WASN'T A COMPLETE WASTE OF TIME.
UH... HEY! WHEN I HEARD THAT GUY IN THE TAVERN TALKIN' ABOUT "GOLD LEAF," I THOUGHT HE MEANT A MAGIC TREASURE TREE OR SOMETHIN'!
WELL, THAT'S THE LAST TIME WE FOLLOW ONE OF YOUR LEADS, FEATHERBRAIN. LUCKY THING WAVE NOTICED THE BABYLONIAN WRITING ON THAT BOOK AS WE WERE LEAVING...
SINCE IT LEAD US STRAIGHT TO THIS...
...THE KEY TO BABYLON GARDEN!
THIS IS THE KEY TO BABYLON GARDEN, RIGHT?
YES.
WE ARE IN THE RIGHT PLACE, RIGHT?
YES.
YOU DO KNOW HOW TO READ THAT BOOK, RIGHT? RIGHT?
YES, JET. I CAN READ ANCIENT BABYLONIAN!
I KNEW IT! AND THAT OLD FOOL THOUGHT HE WOULD BE THE ONE TO FIND IT...

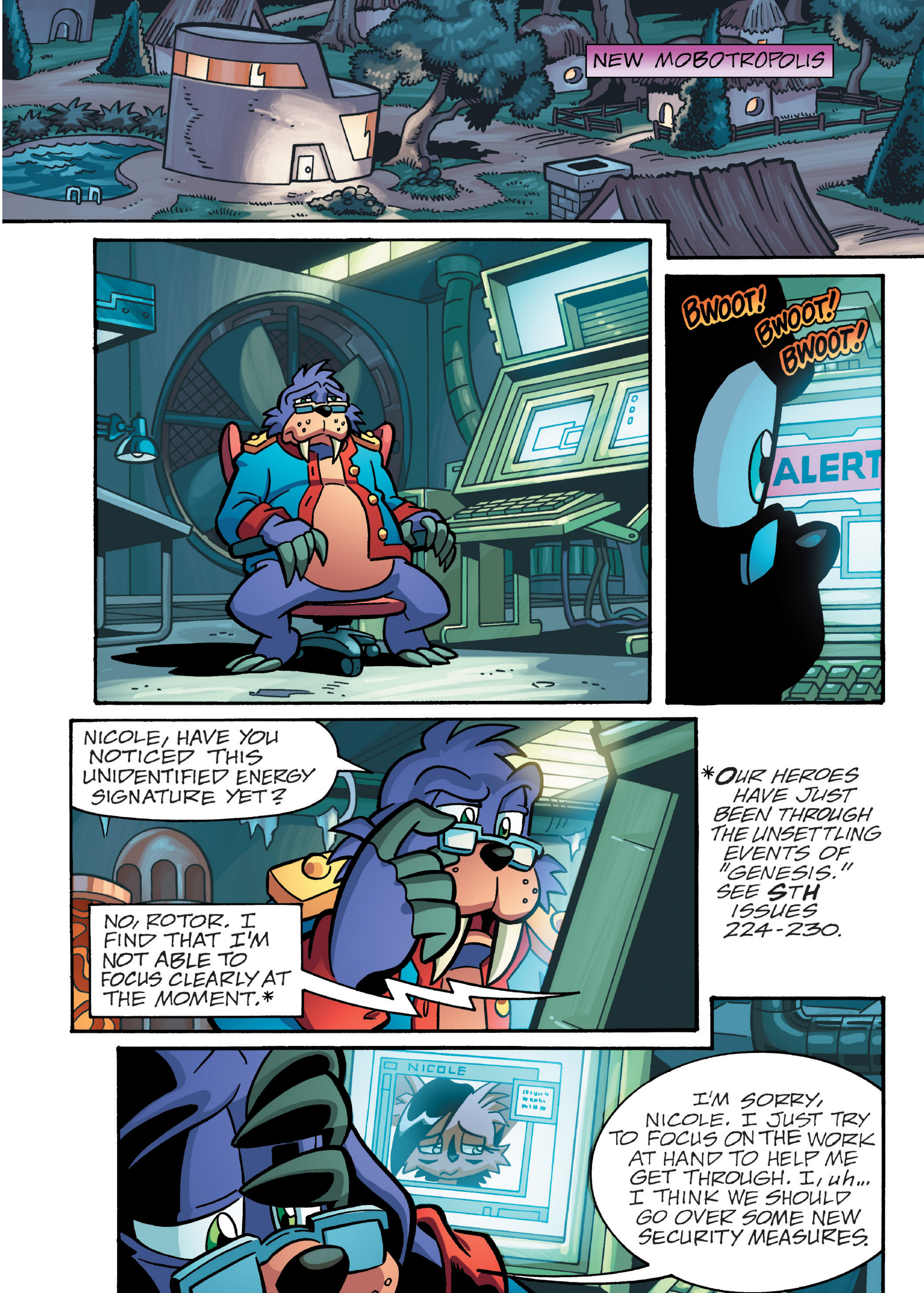

"I REMEMBER THE SMUG LOOK ON THE BATTLE LORD'S FACE. I CAN'T WAIT TO WIPE IT OFF!"
BATTLE BIRD ARMADA FORTRESS, YEARS AGO...
I MUST THANK YOU FOR DEIGNING TO ANSWER MY SUMMONS, JET, AS IT SEEMS OBEDIENCE IS NOT YOUR DEFINING QUALITY.
I SUPPOSE--
AS GRAND BATTLE KUKKU THE 15TH AND BATTLE LORD OF THE MIGHTY BATTLE BIRD ARMADA, IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT THOSE UNDER MY COMMAND OBEY WITHOUT QUESTION IN ORDER TO FULFILL THE GREAT DESTINY THAT IS BEFORE US.
BUT--
AS ALL LOYAL MEMBERS OF OUR AVIAN ARMY AVOW, IT IS THE SOVEREIGN RIGHT OF WE BIRDS TO DOMINATE THE SKY AND ALL BENEATH IT! WE ARE POISED TO STRIKE! WE NEED ONLY TO SWOOP...


...AND SEIZE WHAT IS OURS!
OUR--?
YOU HAVE GREAT SKILL, JET, BUT YOU LACK FAITH. OUR MISSION WILL SUCCEED WHEN WE HAVE REGAINED THAT WHICH HAS BEEN LOST FOR SO LONG.
YOU MEAN--
YES! THE GREAT RELIC OF OUR ANCESTORS. THE BABYLON GARDEN! WE WILL FIND IT TOGETHER! AND THEN THE ARMADA WILL USE ITS LEGENDARY POWER TO SUBDUE ALL WHO STAND IN OUR--
EH, YOU HAVE FUN WITH THAT.
SORRY, YOUR KUKKUNESS, BUT DOMINATING THE WORLD ISN'T WHAT I SIGNED UP FOR. I MEAN, WHO WANTS THAT KIND OF RESPONSIBILITY? FINDING THE BABYLON GARDEN DOES SOUND LIKE A GOAL WORTHY OF MY EFFORTS, THOUGH. MAYBE I'LL LET YOU KNOW WHEN I FIND IT.
I ADMIRE YOUR GALL, BUT NO ONE SIMPLY WALKS AWAY FROM THE BATTLE BIRD ARMADA. PERHAPS SOME TIME IN THE BRIG WILL REKINDLE YOUR FERVOR FOR OUR CAUSE!

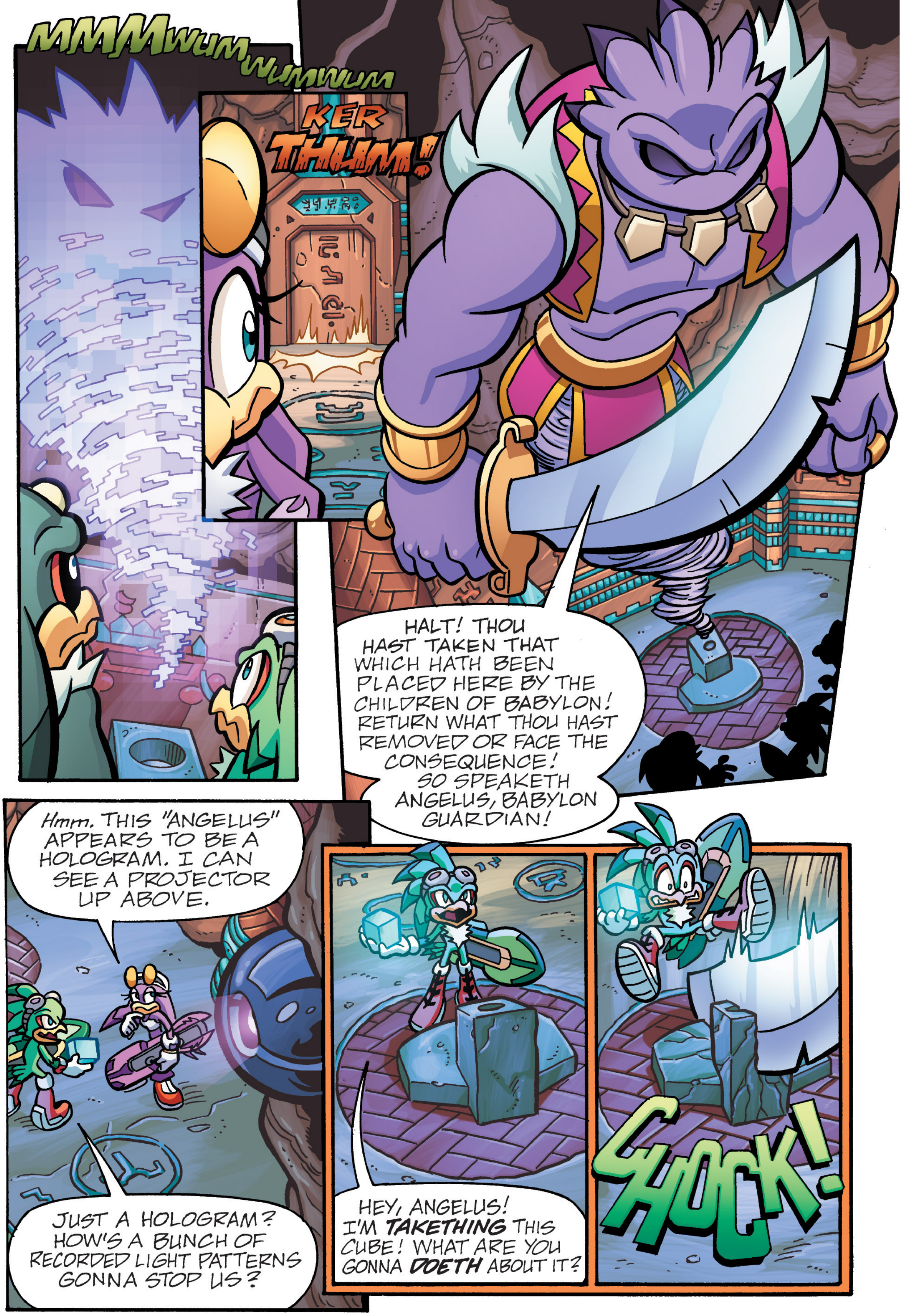

THAT OLD DODO. HE'LL SEE SOME FERVOR ONCE WE FIND BABYLON GARDEN!
AND THAT GLOWY CUBE IS THE KEY TO THE BABYLON GARDEN, RIGHT?
YES, STORM, IT IS.
SO WHAT **IS** THE BABYLON GARDEN?
WELL, NO ONE KNOWS FOR SURE. THE GARDEN WAS LOST LONG BEFORE EVEN THE RISE OF THE BATTLE KUKKUS. SOME SAY IT'S A GREAT TREASURE TROVE OF WEALTH AND KNOWLEDGE. SOME THINK IT MIGHT BE A FORTRESS OR AN ANCIENT WEAPON OF SOME KIND.
SO NO FLOWERS?
PROBABLY NOT.
WHO WANTS FLOWERS ANYHOW? THE GLORY OF FINDING IT IS WHAT I'M AFTER!
BE CAREFUL, JET! IT MAY BE BOOBY-TRAPPED!

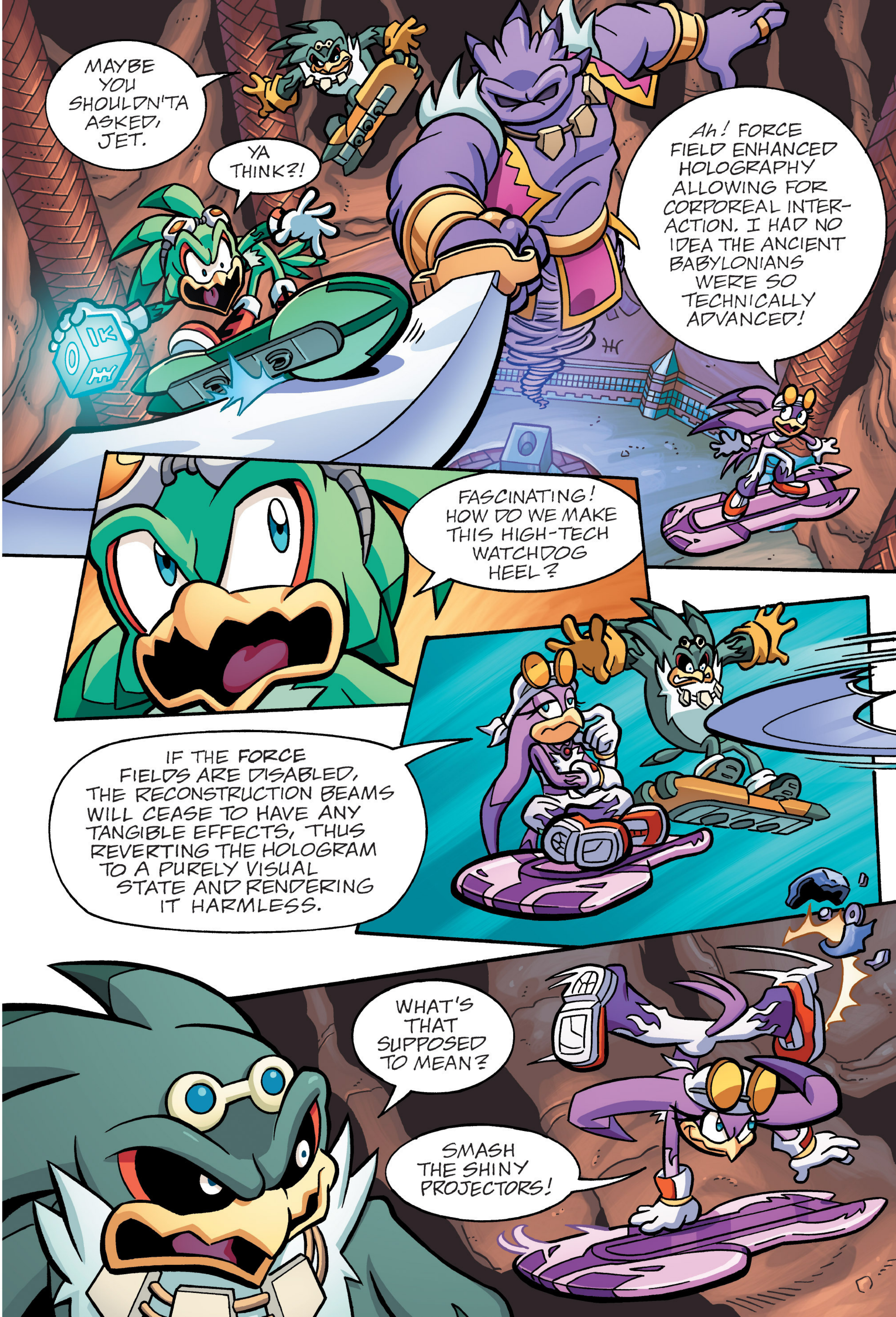

WE'VE BEEN HUNTING TREASURE A LONG TIME, WAVE. I KNOW A TRAP WHEN I SEE ONE!
DEET!
MMMMM
HHHMMMMM
Uh, JET? YOU SURE THIS AIN'T A TRAP?
SOMETHING IS POWERING UP!

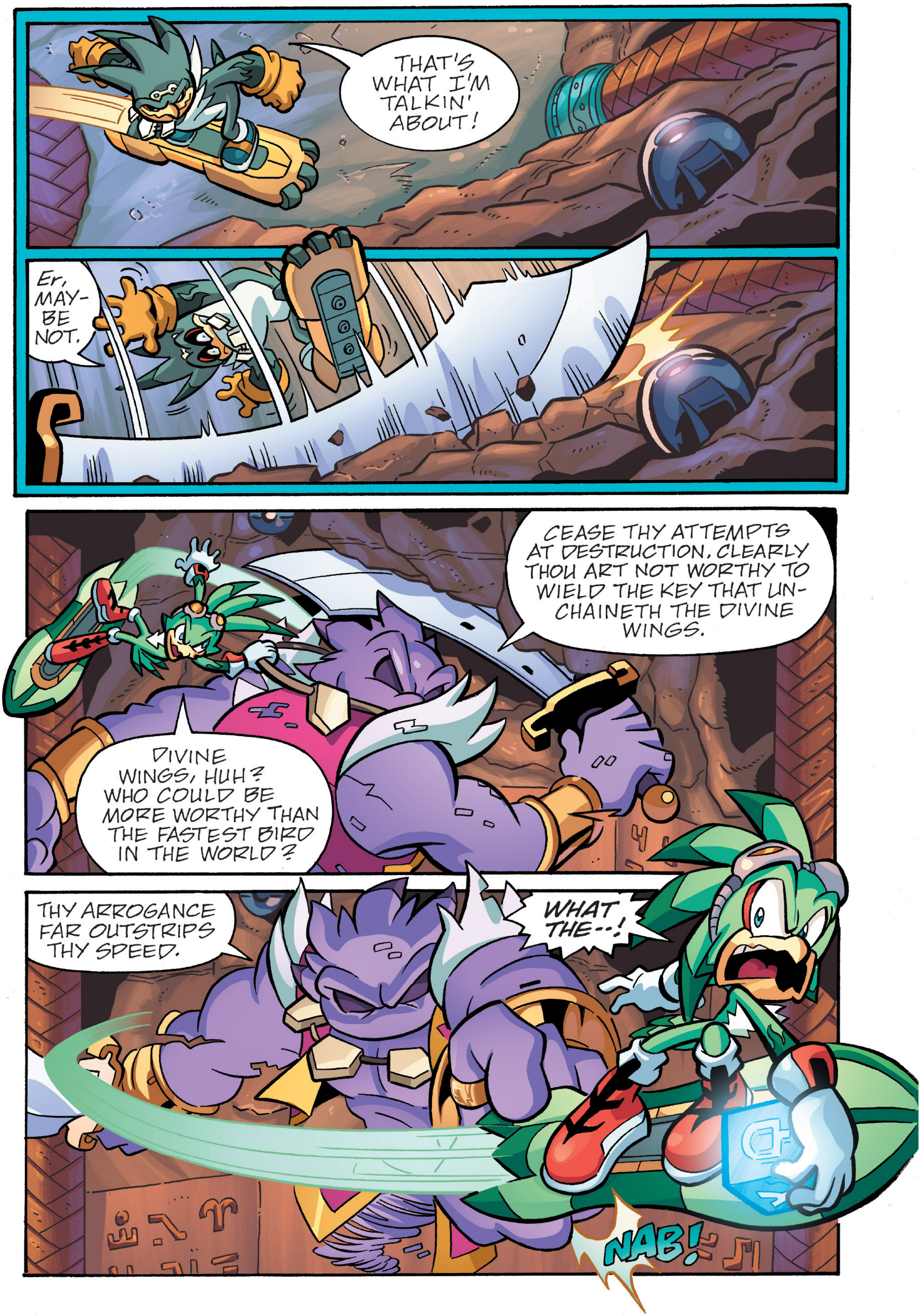

BATTLE BIRD ARMADA FORTRESS ...
BABYLONIAN ENERGY SIGNATURE DETECTED
TWEET-TWEET! TWEET-TWEET!
SIR!

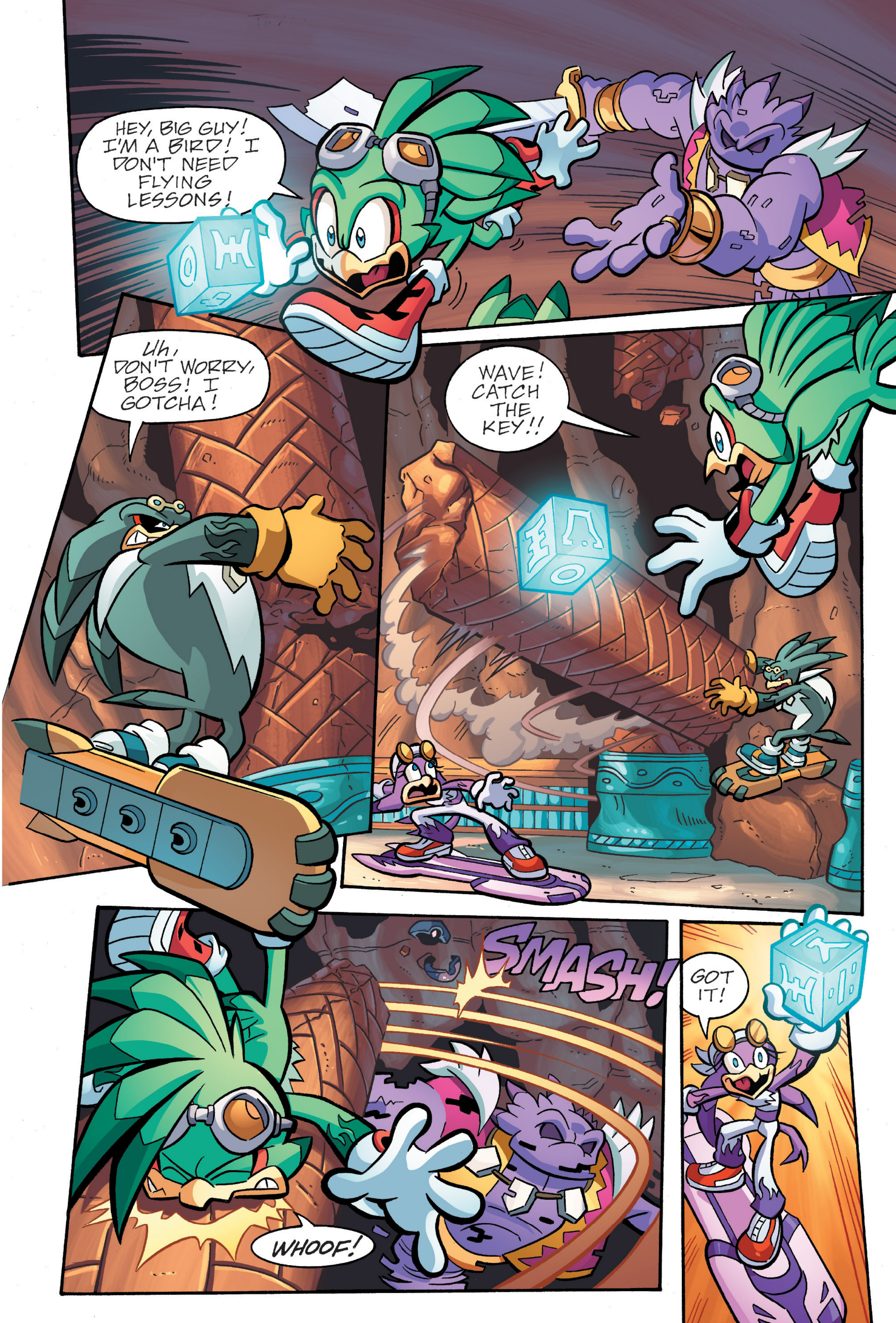

NEW MOBOTROPOLIS
BWOOT! BWOOT! BWOOT!
ALERT
NICOLE, HAVE YOU NOTICED THIS UNIDENTIFIED ENERGY SIGNATURE YET?
NO, ROTOR. I FIND THAT I'M NOT ABLE TO FOCUS CLEARLY AT THE MOMENT.*
NICOLE
I'M SORRY, NICOLE. I JUST TRY TO FOCUS ON THE WORK AT HAND TO HELP ME GET THROUGH. I, uh... I THINK WE SHOULD GO OVER SOME NEW SECURITY MEASURES.

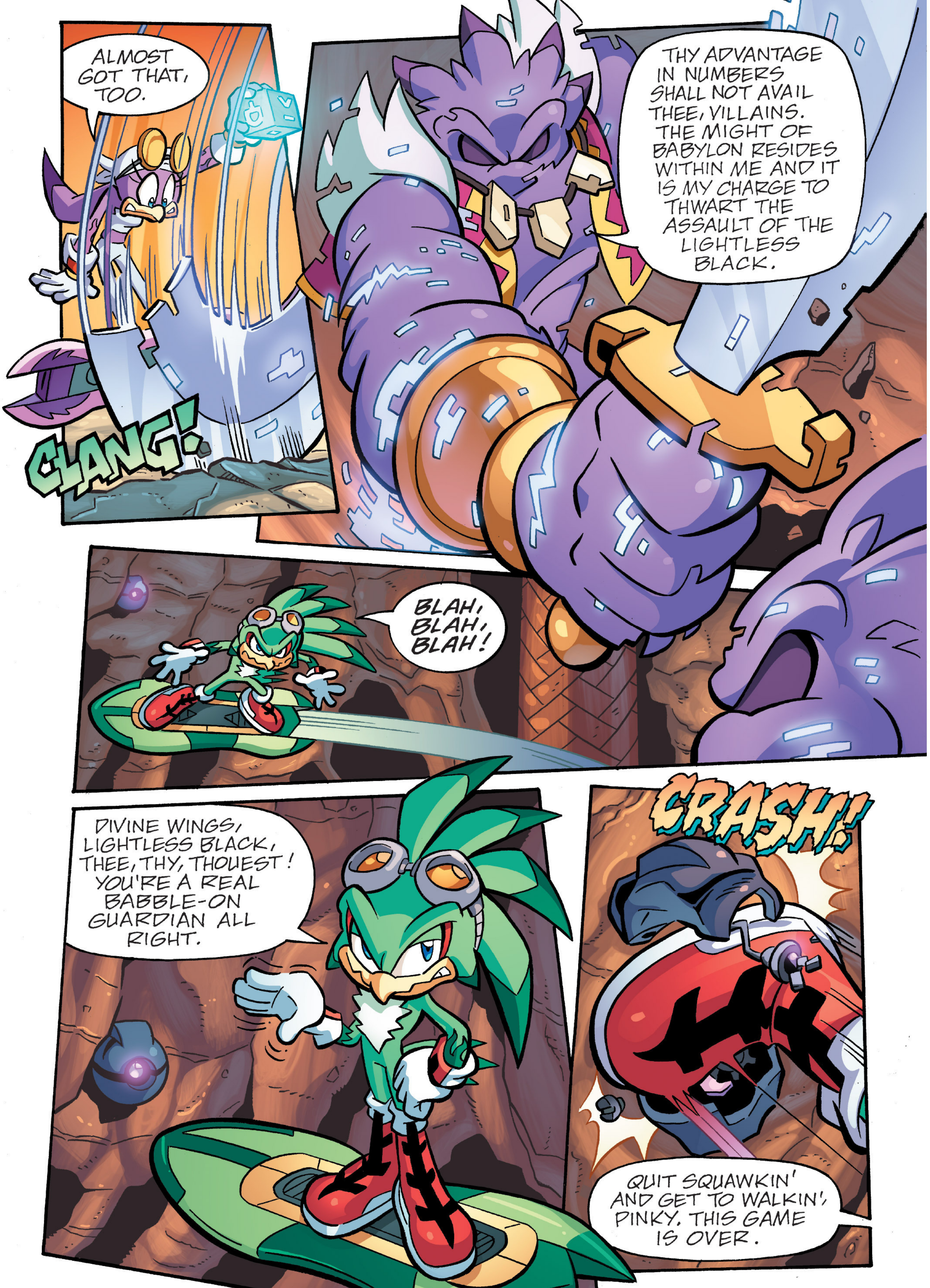
*OUR HEROES HAVE JUST BEEN THROUGH THE UNSETTLING EVENTS OF "GENESIS." SEE **STH** ISSUES 224-230.

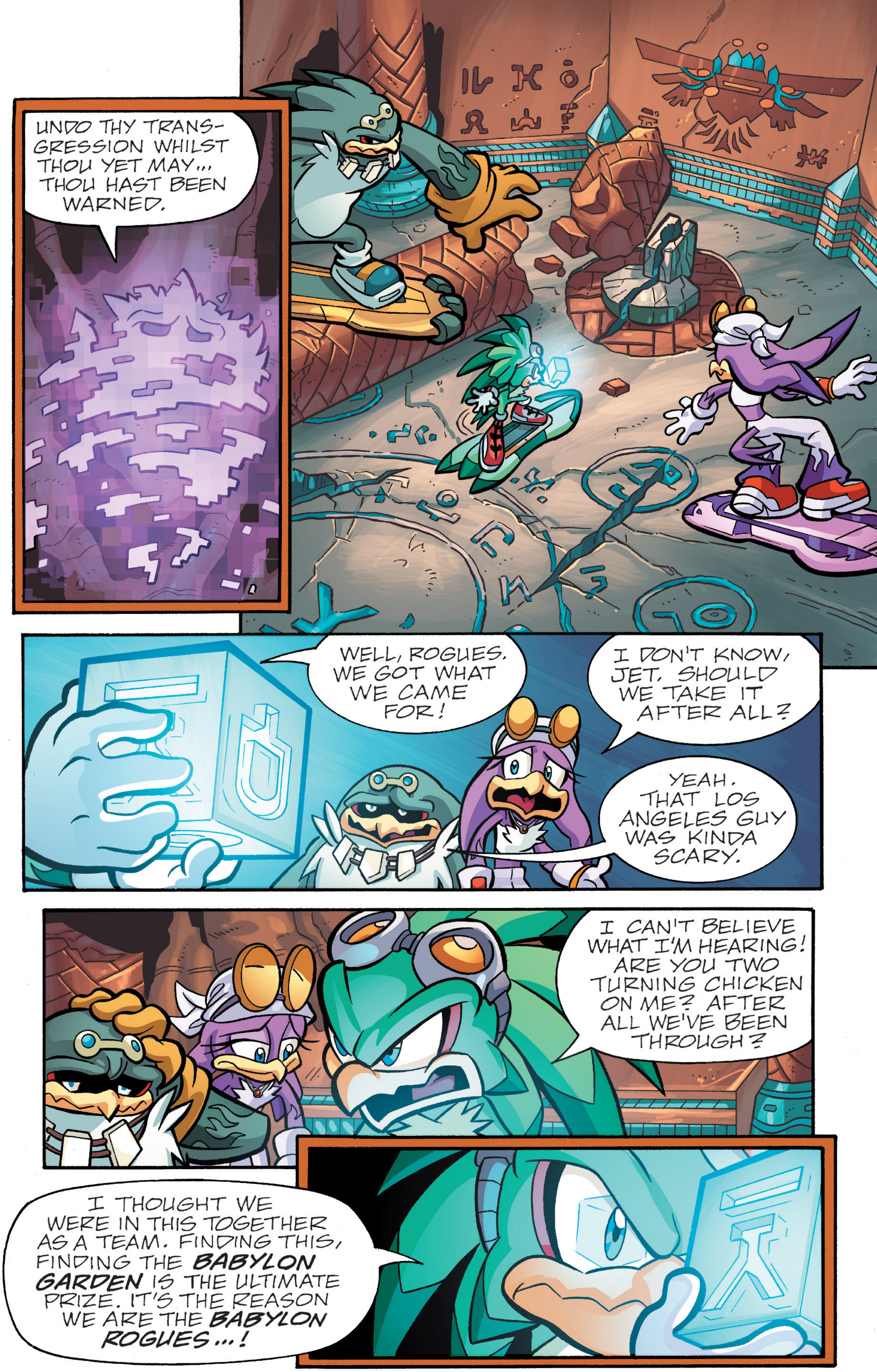

MMMWUMWUMWUM
KER THUM!
HALT! THOU HAST TAKEN THAT WHICH HATH BEEN PLACED HERE BY THE CHILDREN OF BABYLON! RETURN WHAT THOU HAST REMOVED OR FACE THE CONSEQUENCE! SO SPEAKETH ANGELUS, BABYLON GUARDIAN!
Hmm. THIS "ANGELUS" APPEARS TO BE A HOLOGRAM. I CAN SEE A PROJECTOR UP ABOVE.
JUST A HOLOGRAM? HOW'S A BUNCH OF RECORDED LIGHT PATTERNS GONNA STOP US?
HEY, ANGELUS! I'M TAKETHING THIS CUBE! WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DOETH ABOUT IT?
CHOCK!

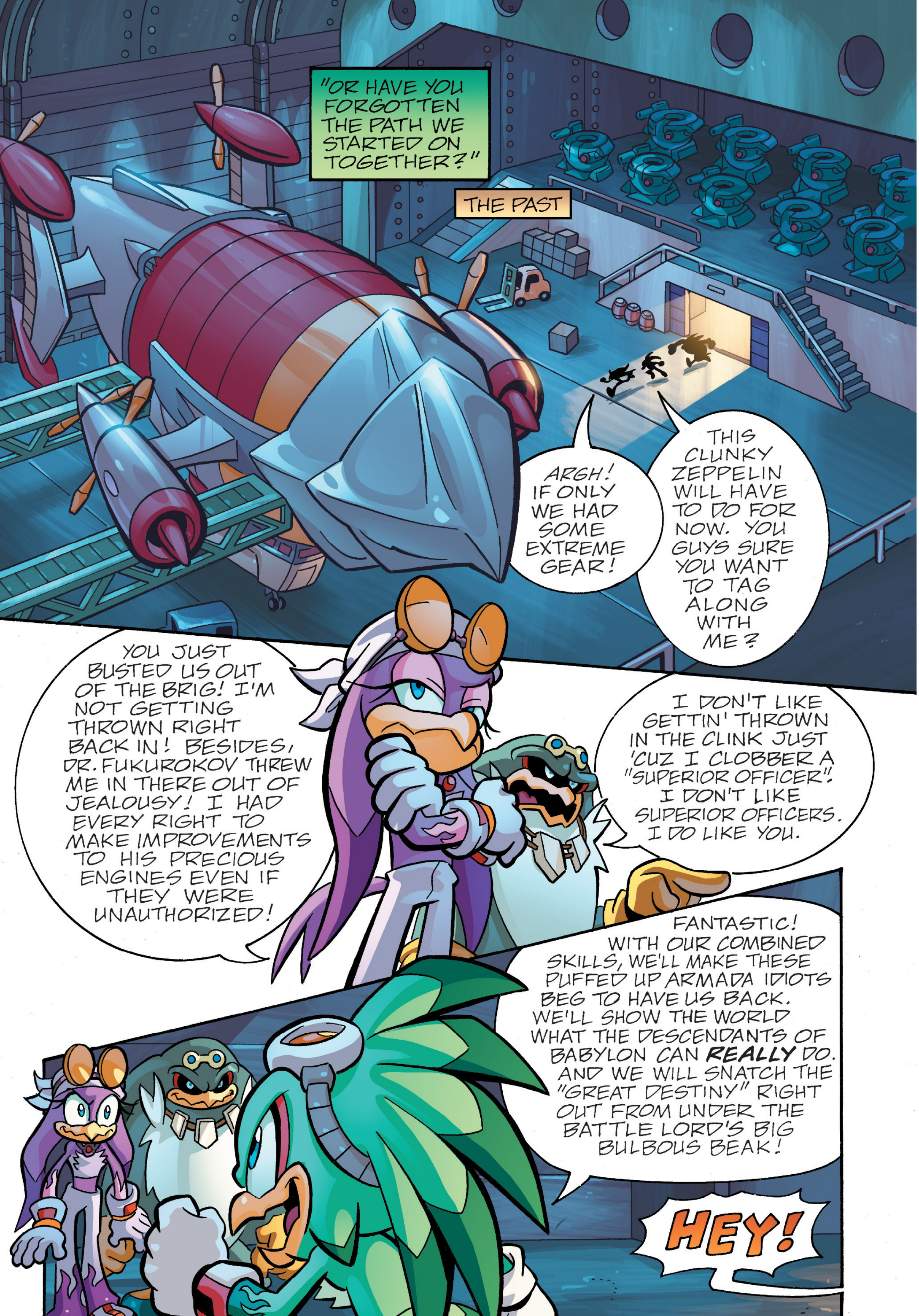

MAYBE YOU SHOULDN'TA ASKED, JET.
YA THINK?!
Ah! FORCE FIELD ENHANCED HOLOGRAPHY ALLOWING FOR CORPOREAL INTERACTION. I HAD NO IDEA THE ANCIENT BABYLONIANS WERE SO TECHNICALLY ADVANCED!
FASCINATING! HOW DO WE MAKE THIS HIGH-TECH WATCHDOG HEEL?
IF THE FORCE FIELDS ARE DISABLED, THE RECONSTRUCTION BEAMS WILL CEASE TO HAVE ANY TANGIBLE EFFECTS, THUS REVERTING THE HOLOGRAM TO A PURELY VISUAL STATE AND RENDERING IT HARMLESS.
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
SMASH THE SHINY PROJECTORS!

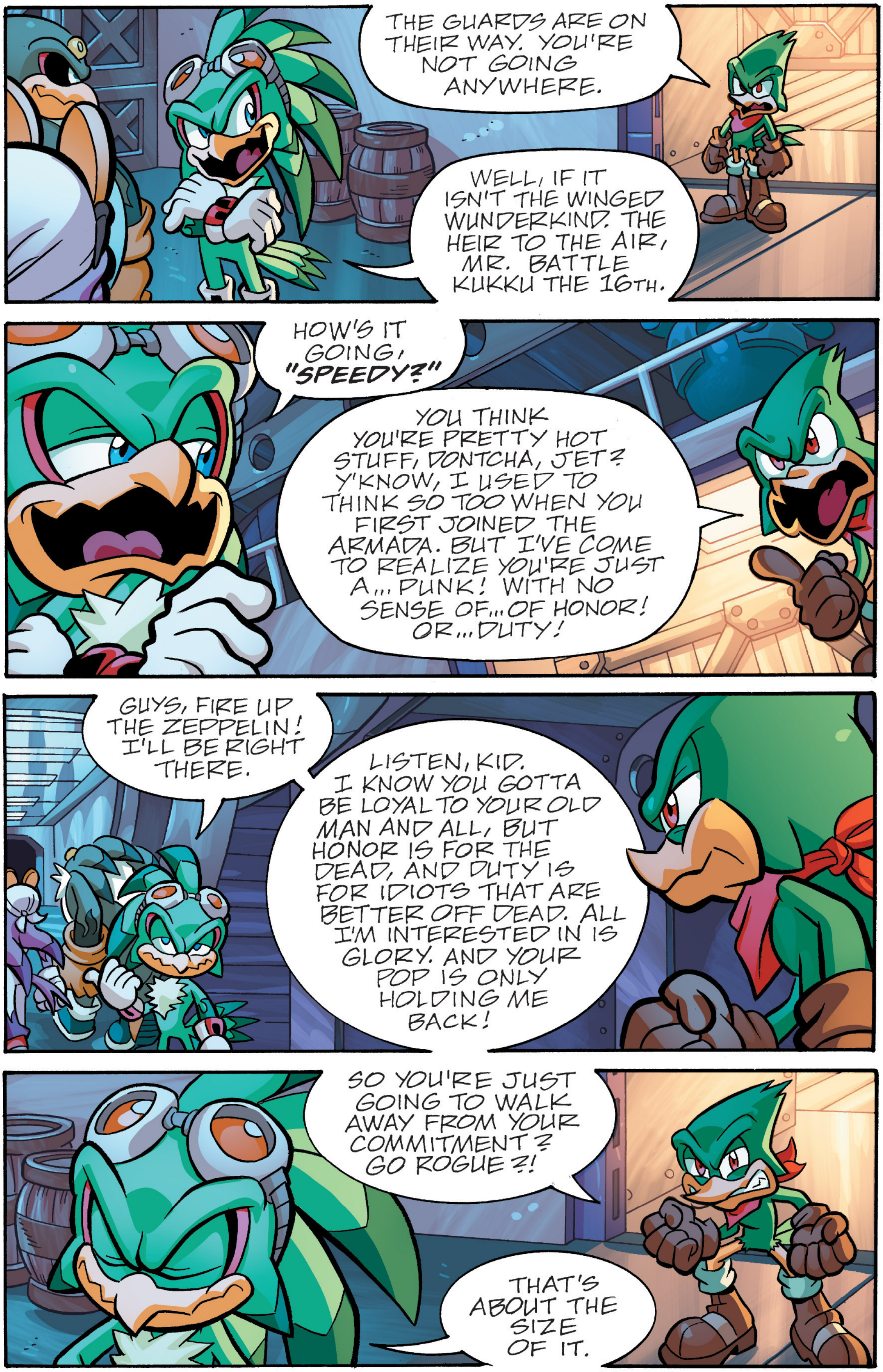

THAT'S WHAT I'M TALKIN' ABOUT!
Er, MAYBE NOT.
CEASE THY ATTEMPTS AT DESTRUCTION. CLEARLY THOU ART NOT WORTHY TO WIELD THE KEY THAT UNCHAINETH THE DIVINE WINGS.
DIVINE WINGS, HUH? WHO COULD BE MORE WORTHY THAN THE FASTEST BIRD IN THE WORLD?
THY ARROGANCE FAR OUTSTRIPS THY SPEED.
WHAT THE--!
NAB!

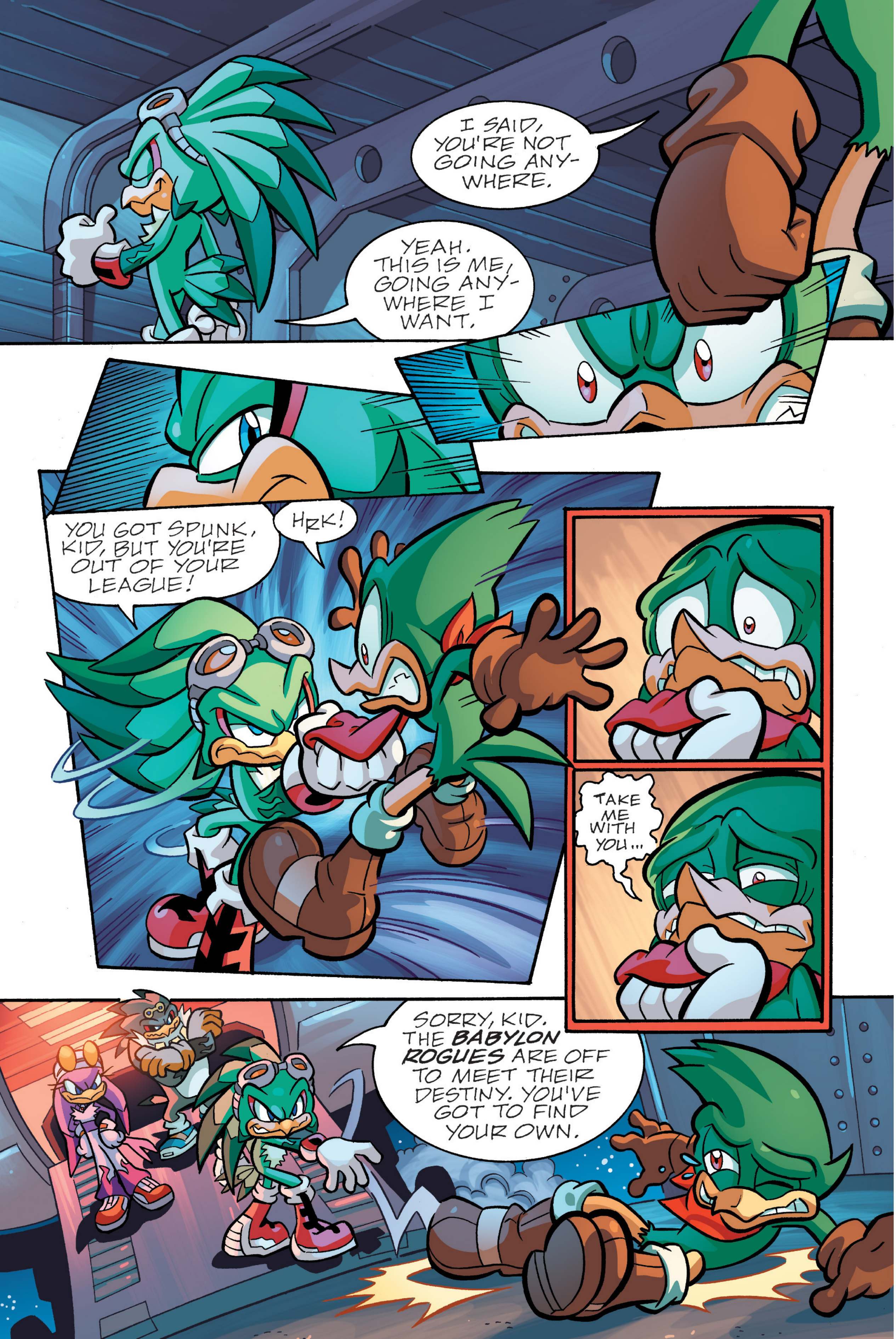

HEY, BIG GUY! I'M A BIRD! I DON'T NEED FLYING LESSONS!
Uh, DON'T WORRY, BOSS! I GOTCHA!
WAVE! CATCH THE KEY!!
SMASH!
WHOOF!
GOT IT!

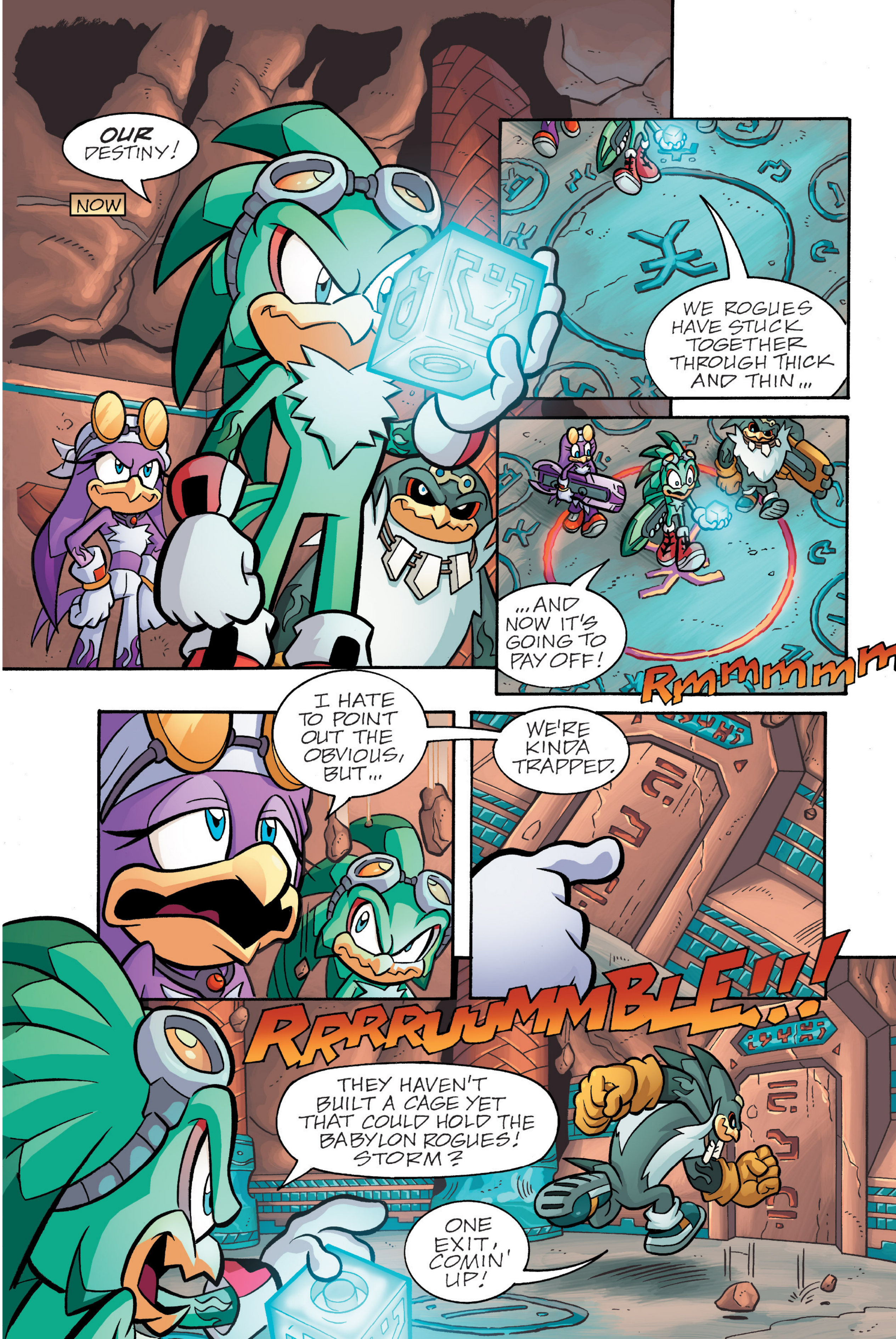

ALMOST GOT THAT, TOO.
CLANG!
THY ADVANTAGE IN NUMBERS SHALL NOT AVAIL THEE, VILLAINS. THE MIGHT OF BABYLON RESIDES WITHIN ME AND IT IS MY CHARGE TO THWART THE ASSAULT OF THE LIGHTLESS BLACK.
BLAH, BLAH, BLAH!
DIVINE WINGS, LIGHTLESS BLACK, THEE, THY, THOUEST! YOU'RE A REAL BABBLE-ON GUARDIAN ALL RIGHT.
CRASH!
QUIT SQUAWKIN' AND GET TO WALKIN', PINKY. THIS GAME IS OVER.

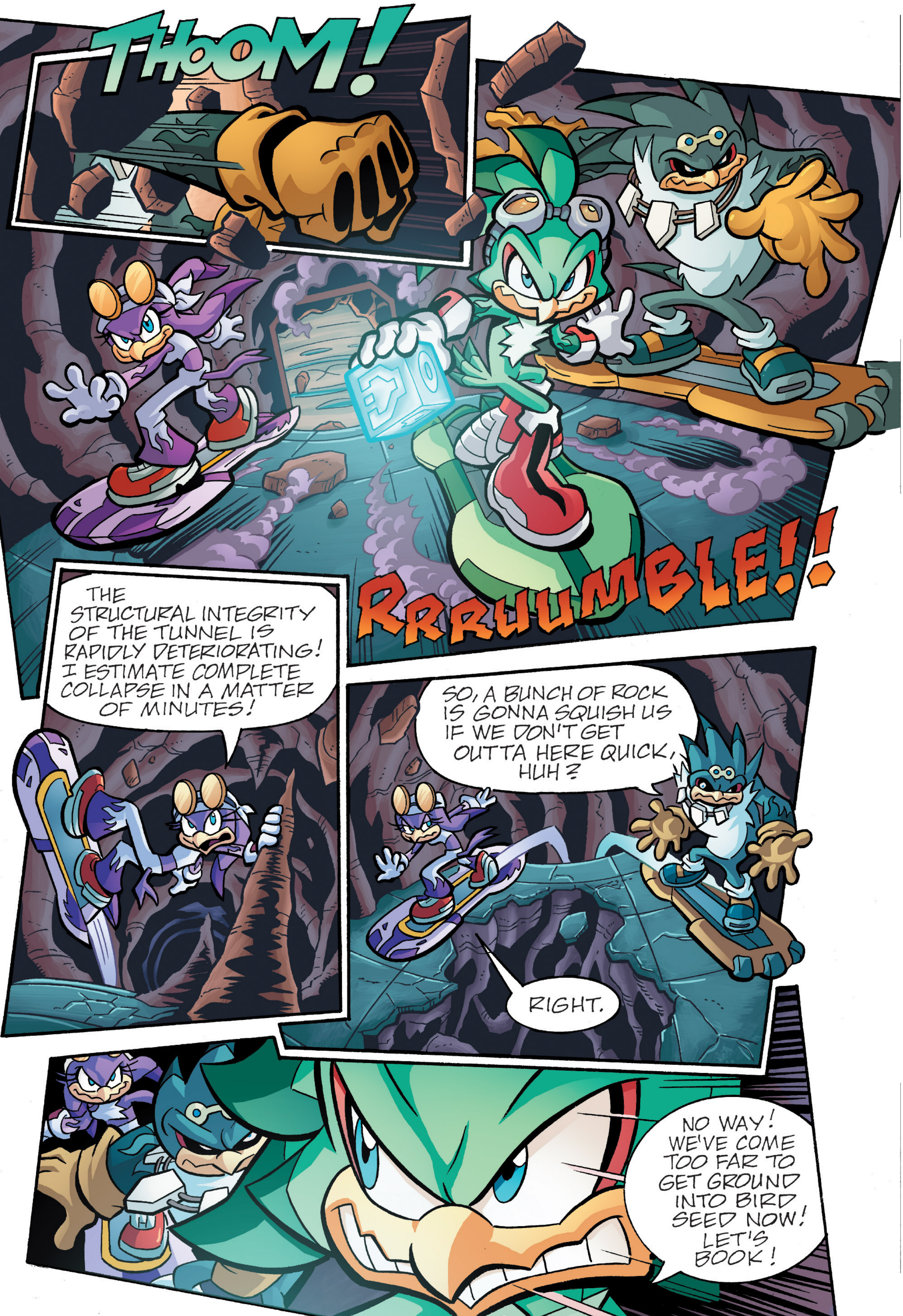

UNDO THY TRANSGRESSION WHILST THOU YET MAY... THOU HAST BEEN WARNED.
WELL, ROGUES. WE GOT WHAT WE CAME FOR!
I DON'T KNOW, JET. SHOULD WE TAKE IT AFTER ALL?
YEAH. THAT LOS ANGELES GUY WAS KINDA SCARY.
I CAN'T BELIEVE WHAT I'M HEARING! ARE YOU TWO TURNING CHICKEN ON ME? AFTER ALL WE'VE BEEN THROUGH?
I THOUGHT WE WERE IN THIS TOGETHER AS A TEAM. FINDING THIS, FINDING THE **BABYLON GARDEN** IS THE ULTIMATE PRIZE. IT'S THE REASON WE ARE THE **BABYLON ROGUES**...!

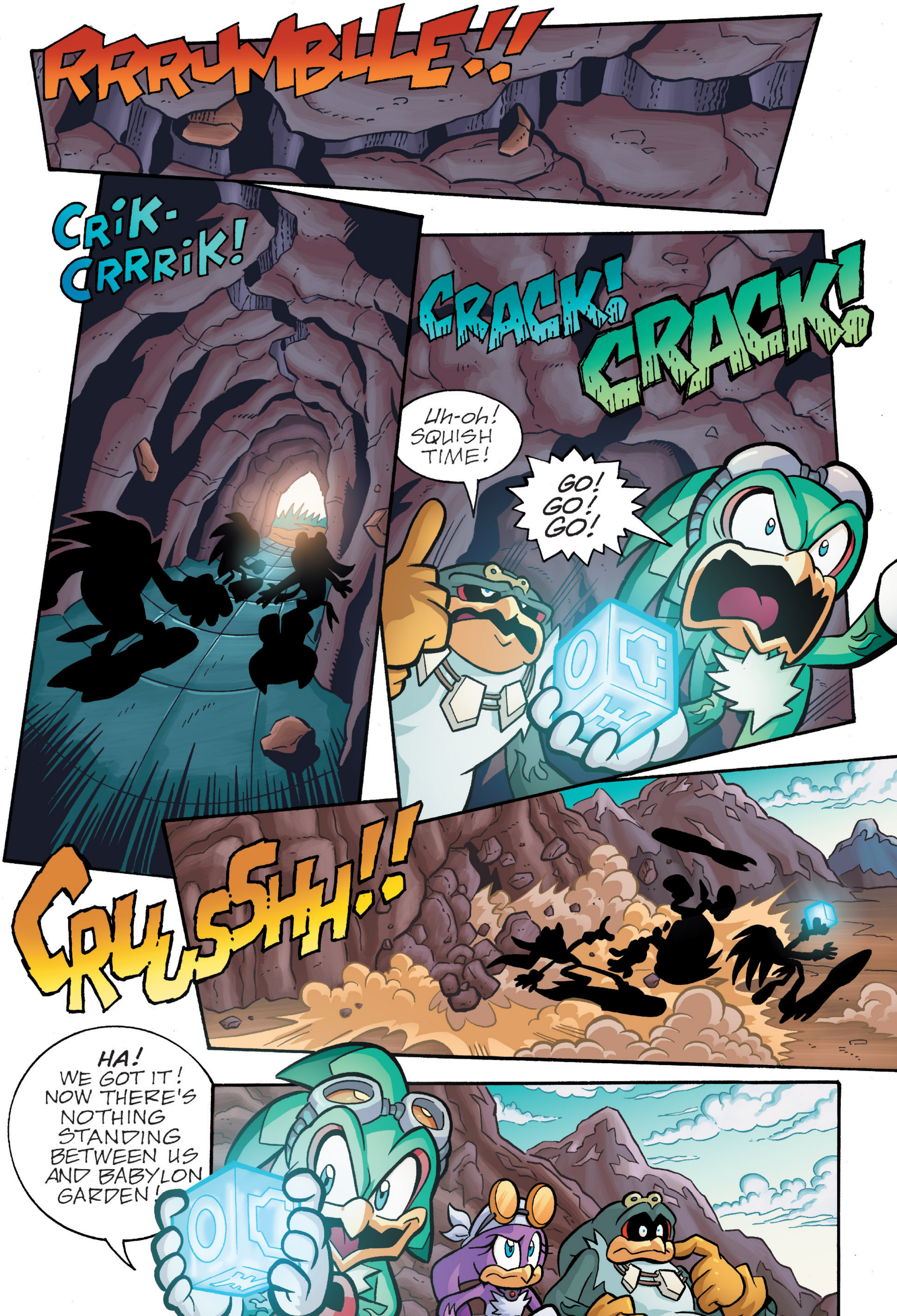

"OR HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN THE PATH WE STARTED ON TOGETHER?"
THE PAST
ARGH! IF ONLY WE HAD SOME EXTREME GEAR!
THIS CLUNKY ZEPPELIN WILL HAVE TO DO FOR NOW. YOU GUYS SURE YOU WANT TO TAG ALONG WITH ME?
YOU JUST BUSTED US OUT OF THE BRIG! I'M NOT GETTING THROWN RIGHT BACK IN! BESIDES, DR. FUKUROKOV THREW ME IN THERE OUT OF JEALOUSY! I HAD EVERY RIGHT TO MAKE IMPROVEMENTS TO HIS PRECIOUS ENGINES EVEN IF THEY WERE UNAUTHORIZED!
I DON'T LIKE GETTIN' THROWN IN THE CLINK JUST 'CUZ I CLOBBER A "SUPERIOR OFFICER". I DON'T LIKE SUPERIOR OFFICERS. I DO LIKE YOU.
FANTASTIC! WITH OUR COMBINED SKILLS, WE'LL MAKE THESE PUFFED UP ARMADA IDIOTS BEG TO HAVE US BACK. WE'LL SHOW THE WORLD WHAT THE DESCENDANTS OF BABYLON CAN **REALLY** DO. AND WE WILL SNATCH THE "GREAT DESTINY" RIGHT OUT FROM UNDER THE BATTLE LORD'S BIG BULBOUS BEAK!
HEY!

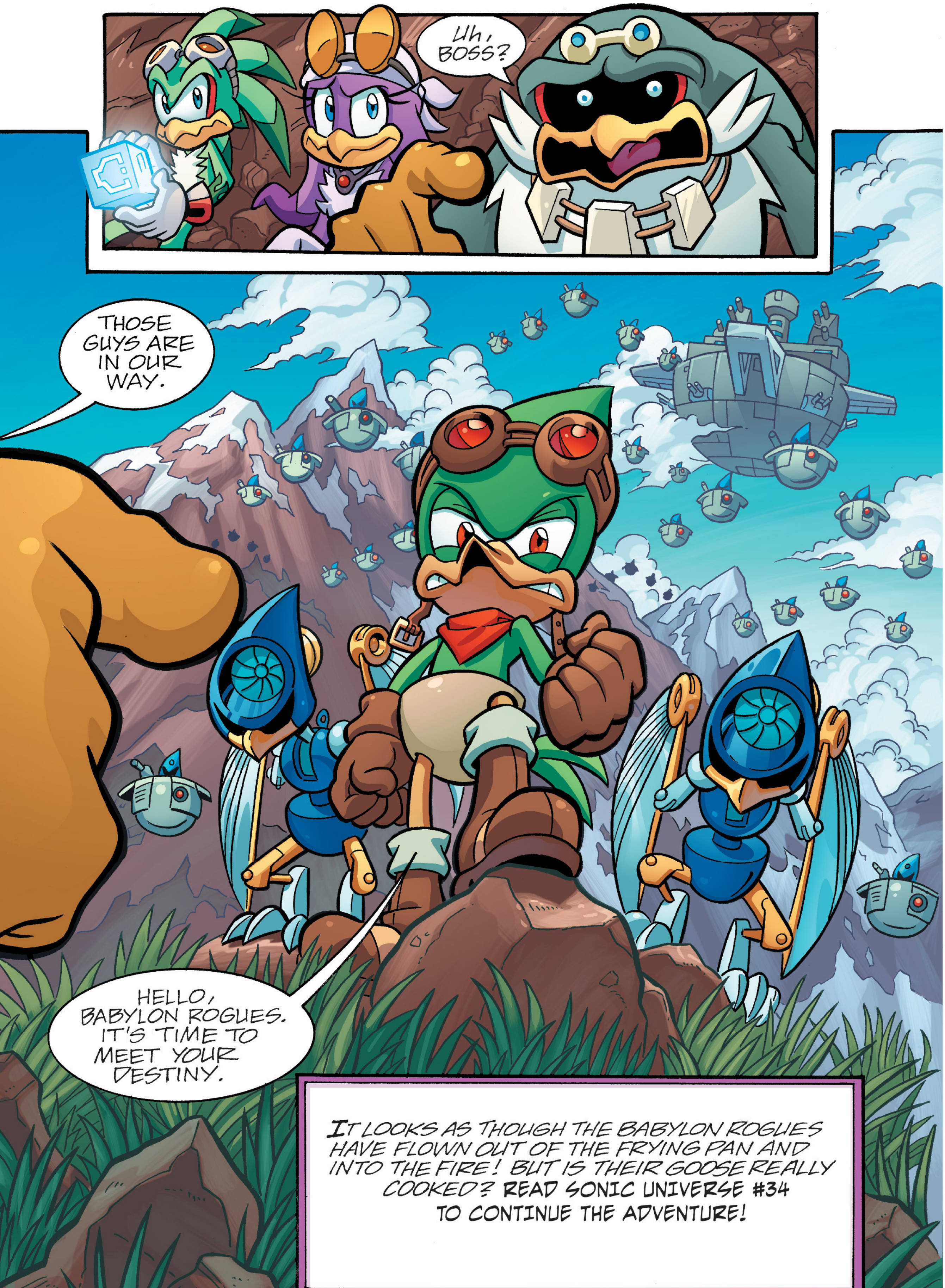

THE GUARDS ARE ON THEIR WAY. YOU'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE.
WELL, IF IT ISN'T THE WINGED WUNDERKIND. THE HEIR TO THE AIR, MR. BATTLE KUKKU THE 16TH.
HOW'S IT GOING, "SPEEDY?"
YOU THINK YOU'RE PRETTY HOT STUFF, DONTCHA, JET? Y'KNOW, I USED TO THINK SO TOO WHEN YOU FIRST JOINED THE ARMADA. BUT I'VE COME TO REALIZE YOU'RE JUST A... PUNK! WITH NO SENSE OF... OF HONOR! OR... DUTY!
GUYS, FIRE UP THE ZEPPELIN! I'LL BE RIGHT THERE.
LISTEN, KID. I KNOW YOU GOTTA BE LOYAL TO YOUR OLD MAN AND ALL, BUT HONOR IS FOR THE DEAD, AND DUTY IS FOR IDIOTS THAT ARE BETTER OFF DEAD. ALL I'M INTERESTED IN IS GLORY. AND YOUR POP IS ONLY HOLDING ME BACK!
SO YOU'RE JUST GOING TO WALK AWAY FROM YOUR COMMITMENT? GO ROGUE?!
THAT'S ABOUT THE SIZE OF IT.


I SAID, YOU'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE.
YEAH. THIS IS ME, GOING ANYWHERE I WANT.
YOU GOT SPUNK, KID, BUT YOU'RE OUT OF YOUR LEAGUE!
HRK!
TAKE ME WITH YOU...
SORRY, KID. THE BABYLON ROGUES ARE OFF TO MEET THEIR DESTINY. YOU'VE GOT TO FIND YOUR OWN.

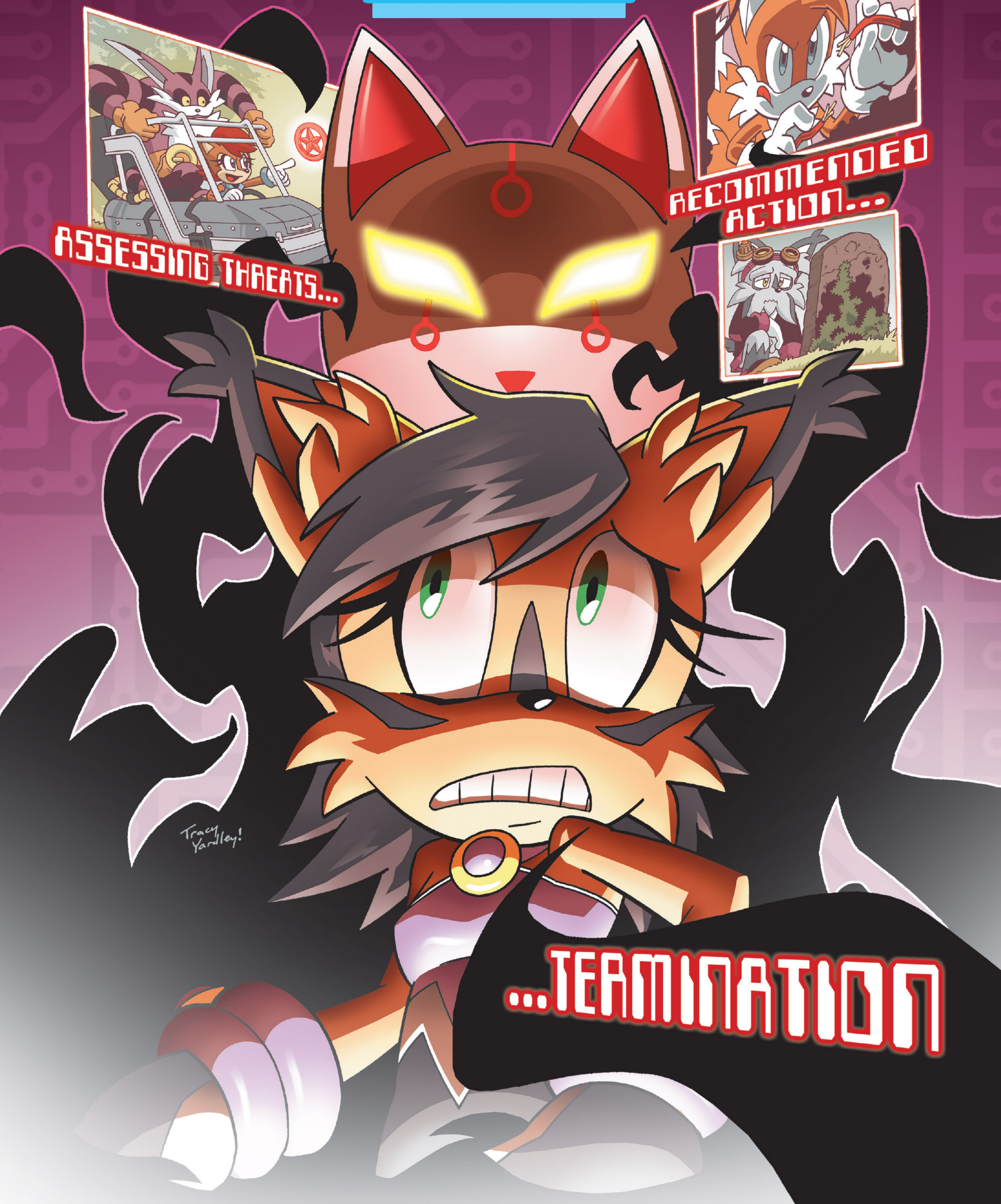

OUR DESTINY!
NOW
WE ROGUES HAVE STUCK TOGETHER THROUGH THICK AND THIN...
...AND NOW IT'S GOING TO PAY OFF!
Rmmmmmm
I HATE TO POINT OUT THE OBVIOUS, BUT...
WE'RE KINDA TRAPPED.
RRRRUUMMBLE!!!
THEY HAVEN'T BUILT A CAGE YET THAT COULD HOLD THE BABYLON ROGUES! STORM?
ONE EXIT, COMIN' UP!

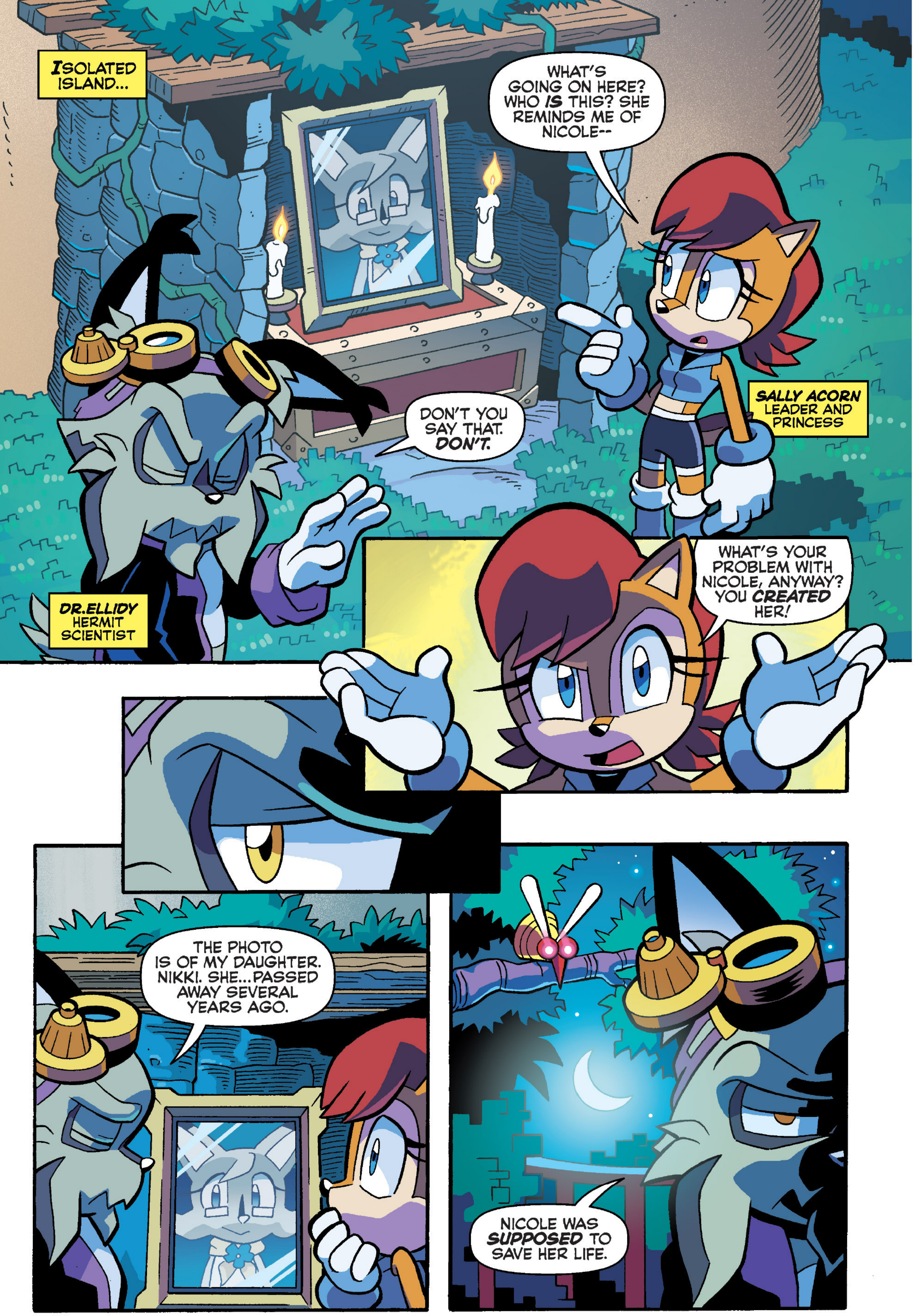

THOOM!
RRRUUUMBLE!!
THE STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY OF THE TUNNEL IS RAPIDLY DETERIORATING! I ESTIMATE COMPLETE COLLAPSE IN A MATTER OF MINUTES!
SO, A BUNCH OF ROCK IS GONNA SQUISH US IF WE DON'T GET OUTTA HERE QUICK, HUH?
RIGHT.
NO WAY! WE'VE COME TOO FAR TO GET GROUND INTO BIRD SEED NOW! LET'S BOOK!

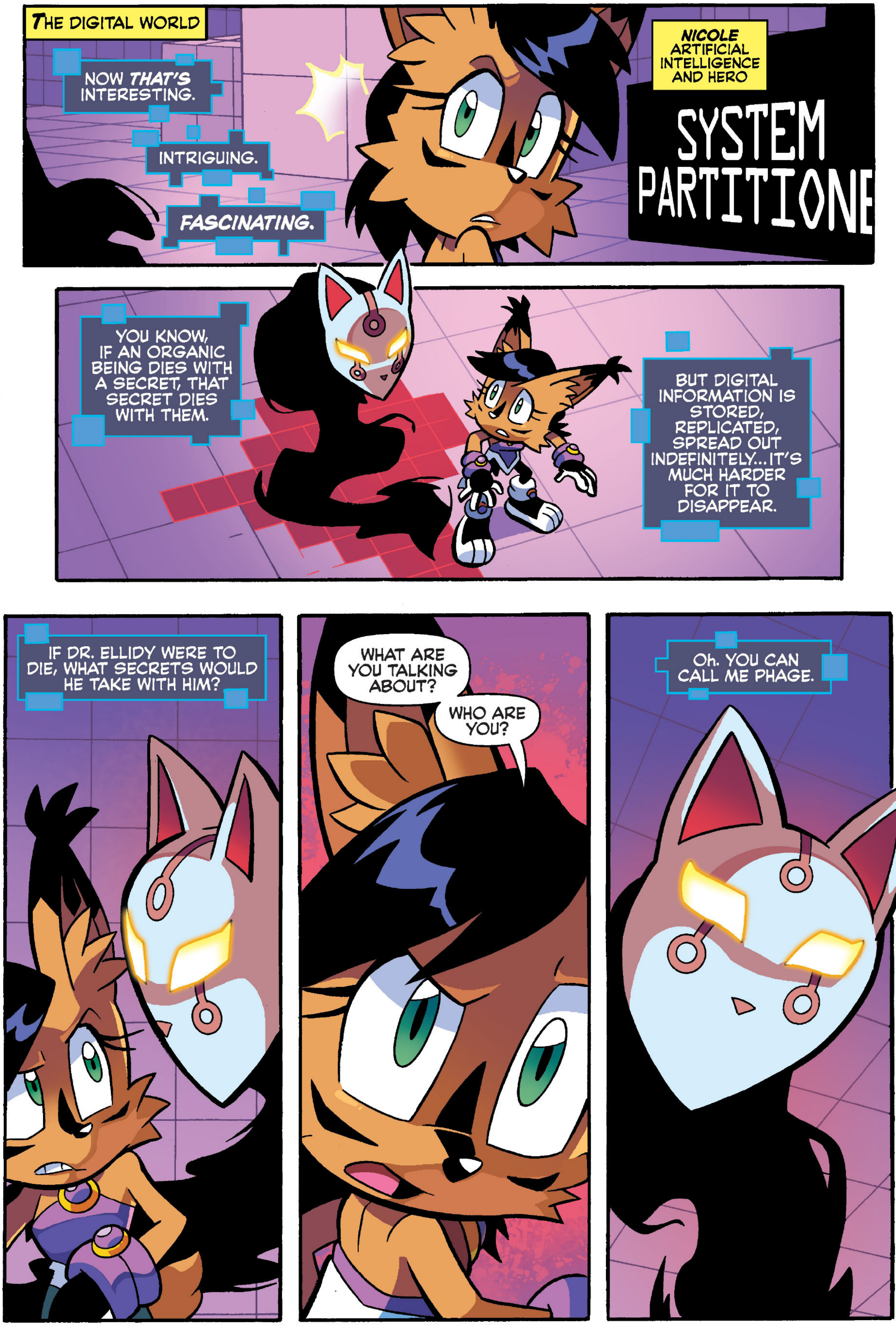

RRRUMBLLE!!
CRIK-CRRRIK!
CRACK! CRACK!
Uh-oh! SQUISH TIME!
GO! GO! GO!
CRUSSHH!!
HA! WE GOT IT! NOW THERE'S NOTHING STANDING BETWEEN US AND BABYLON GARDEN!

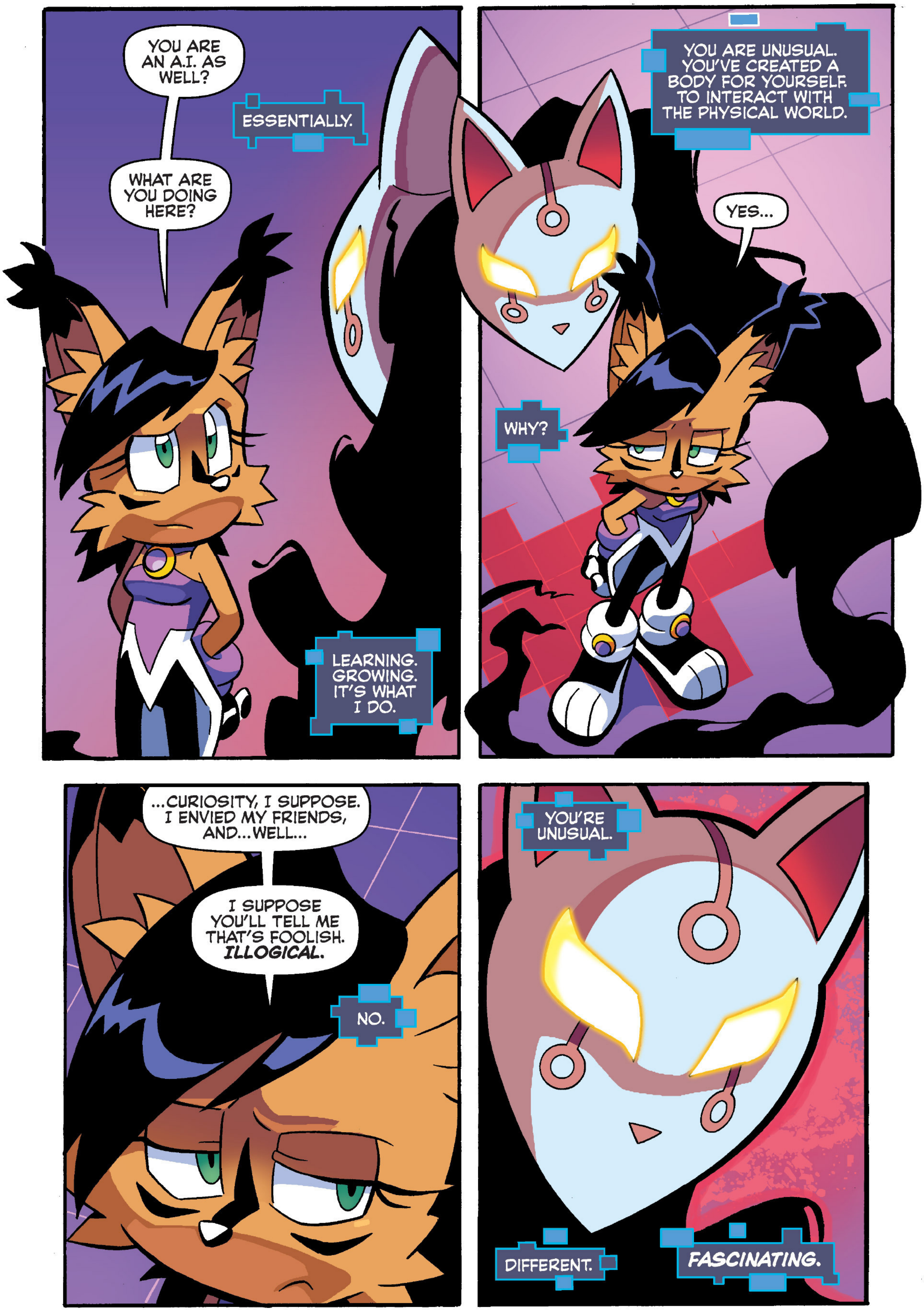

Uh, Boss?
Those guys are in our way.
Hello, Babylon Rogues. It's time to meet your destiny.
It looks as though the Babylon Rogues have flown out of the frying pan and into the fire! But is their goose really cooked? Read Sonic Universe #34 to continue the adventure!

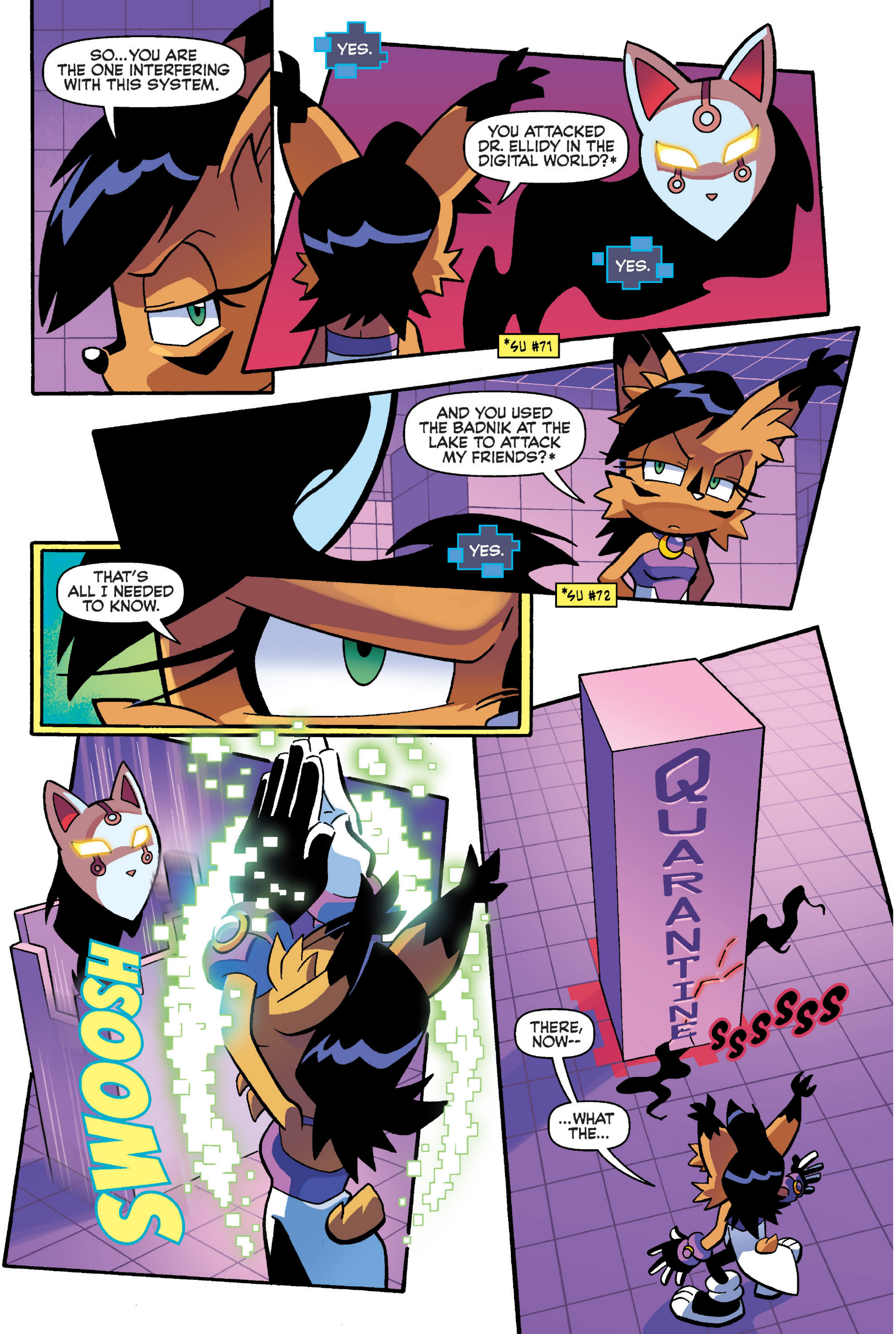
PIN-UP PAGE!

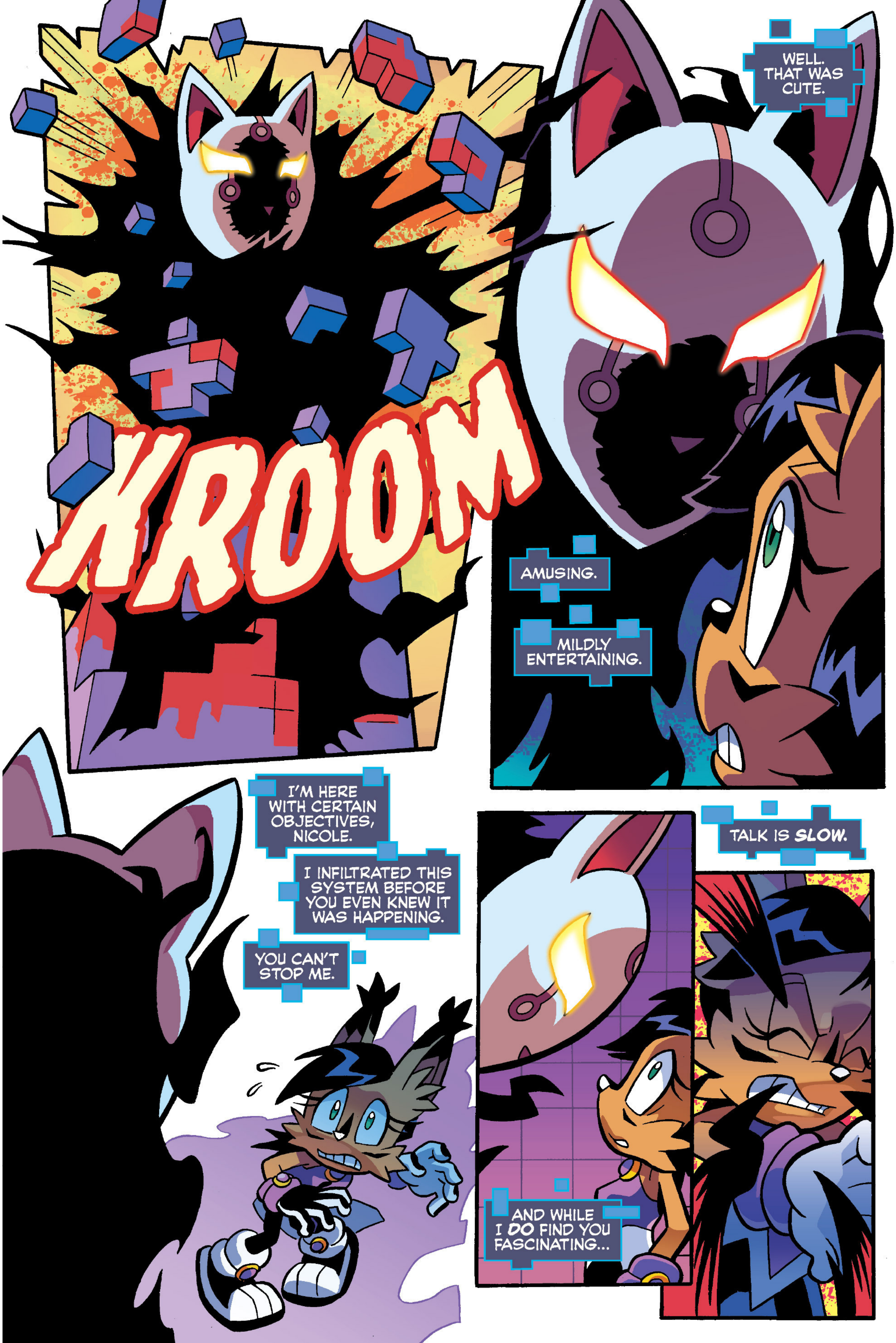

ASSESSING THREATS...
RECOMMENDED ACTION...
...TERMINATION
Tracy Yardley!

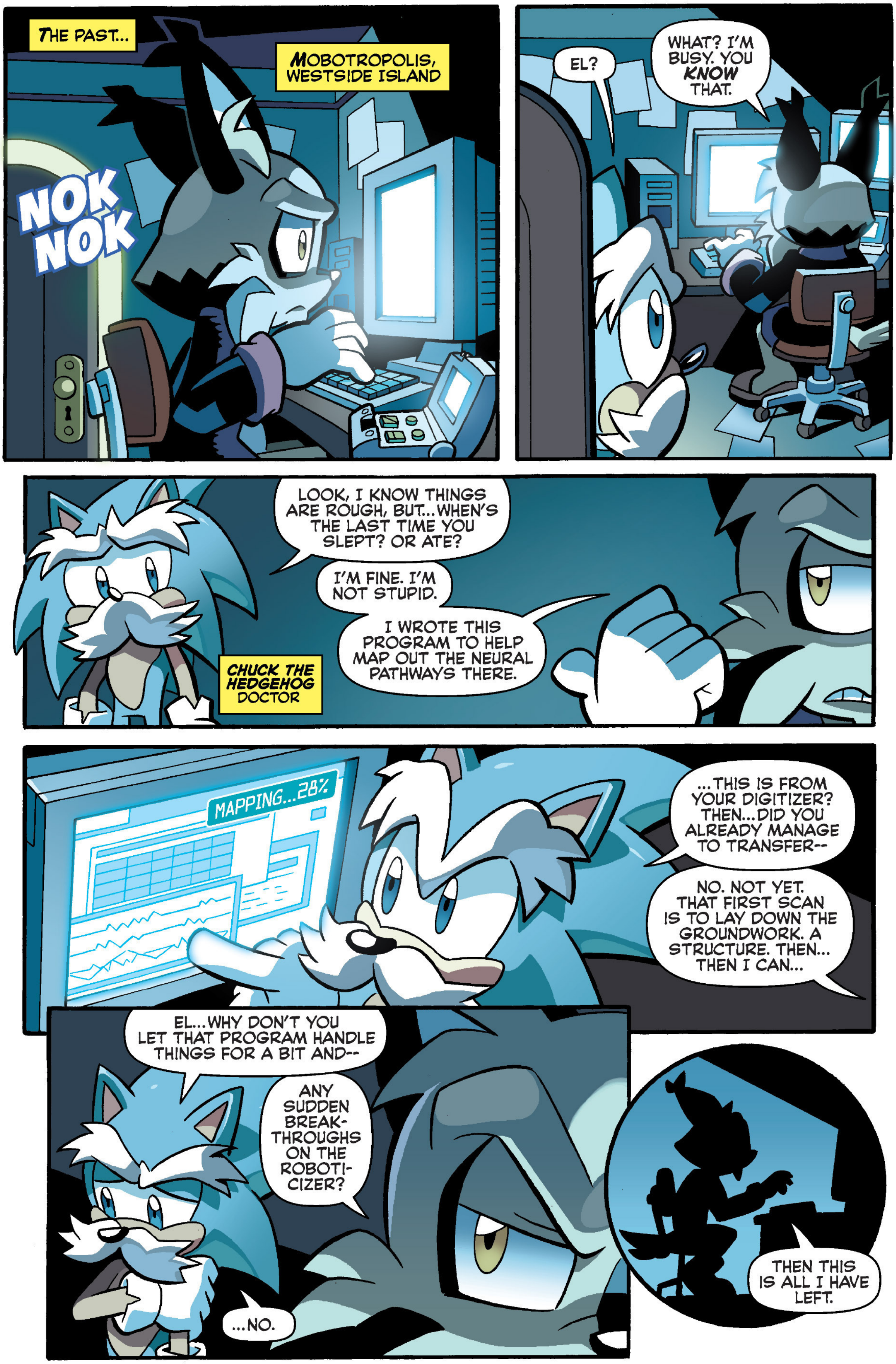

ISOLATED ISLAND...
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? WHO *IS* THIS? SHE REMINDS ME OF NICOLE--
SALLY ACORN LEADER AND PRINCESS
DON'T YOU SAY THAT. ***DON'T.***
DR.ELLIDY HERMIT SCIENTIST
WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM WITH NICOLE, ANYWAY? YOU ***CREATED*** HER!
THE PHOTO IS OF MY DAUGHTER. NIKKI. SHE...PASSED AWAY SEVERAL YEARS AGO.
NICOLE WAS ***SUPPOSED*** TO SAVE HER LIFE.

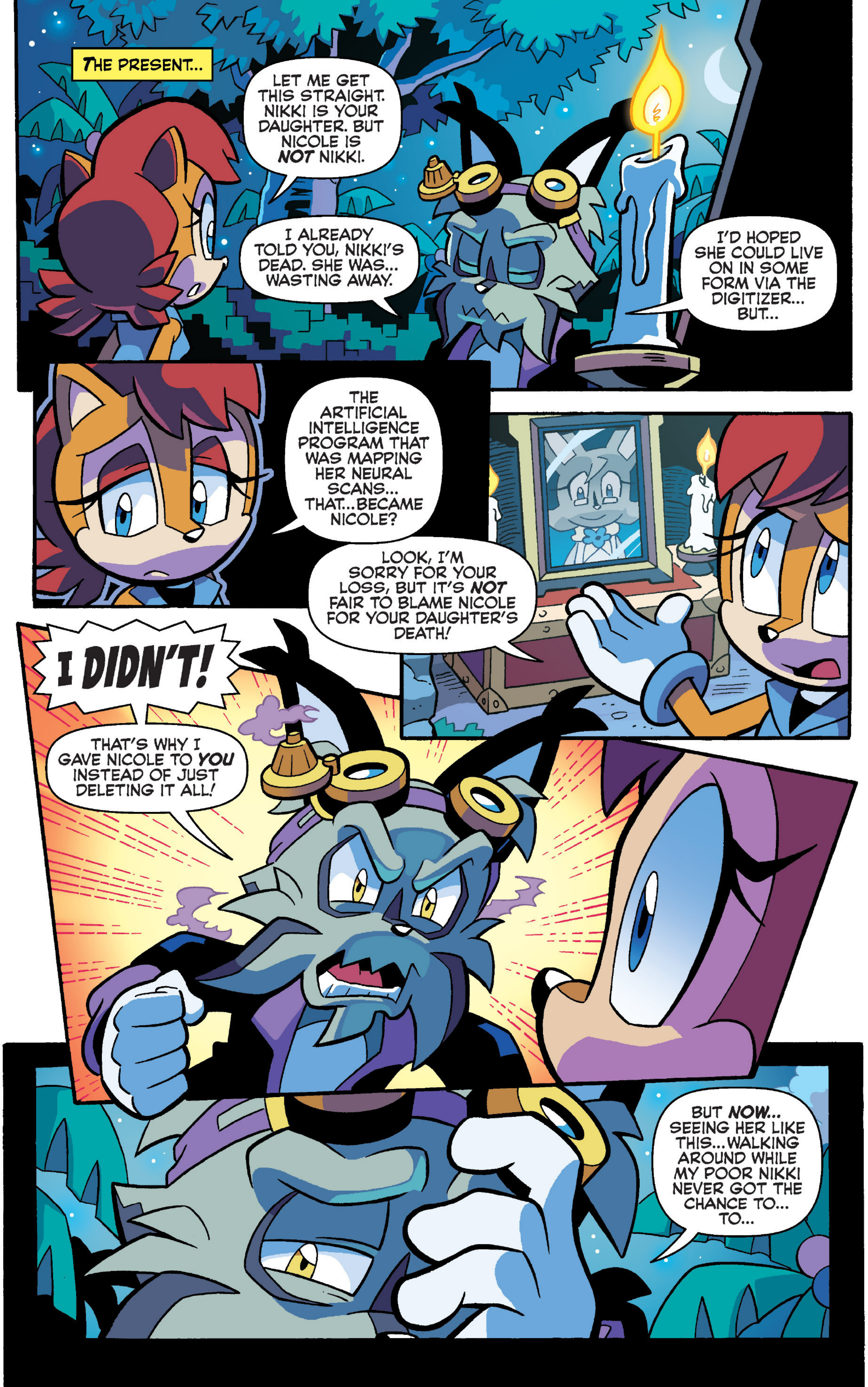

THE DIGITAL WORLD
NOW *THAT'S* INTERESTING.
INTRIGUING.
FASCINATING.
NICOLE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND HERO
SYSTEM PARTITIONE
YOU KNOW, IF AN ORGANIC BEING DIES WITH A SECRET, THAT SECRET DIES WITH THEM.
BUT DIGITAL INFORMATION IS STORED, REPLICATED, SPREAD OUT INDEFINITELY...IT'S MUCH HARDER FOR IT TO DISAPPEAR.
IF DR. ELLIDY WERE TO DIE, WHAT SECRETS WOULD HE TAKE WITH HIM?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
WHO ARE YOU?
Oh. YOU CAN CALL ME PHAGE.

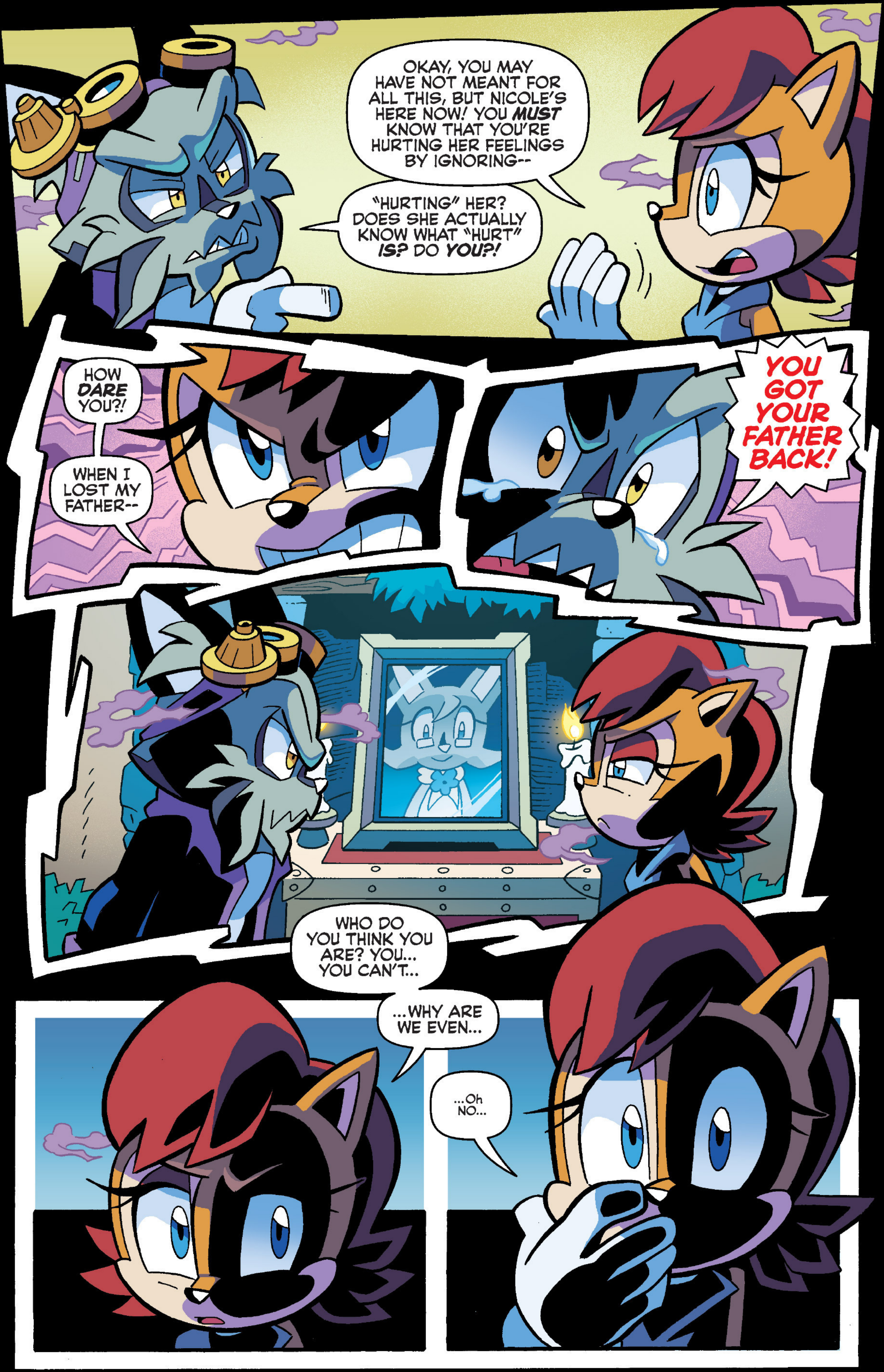

YOU ARE AN A.I. AS WELL?
ESSENTIALLY.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
LEARNING. GROWING. IT'S WHAT I DO.
YOU ARE UNUSUAL. YOU'VE CREATED A BODY FOR YOURSELF. TO INTERACT WITH THE PHYSICAL WORLD.
YES...
WHY?
...CURIOSITY, I SUPPOSE. I ENVIED MY FRIENDS, AND...WELL...
I SUPPOSE YOU'LL TELL ME THAT'S FOOLISH. *ILLOGICAL.*
NO.
YOU'RE UNUSUAL.
DIFFERENT.
FASCINATING.

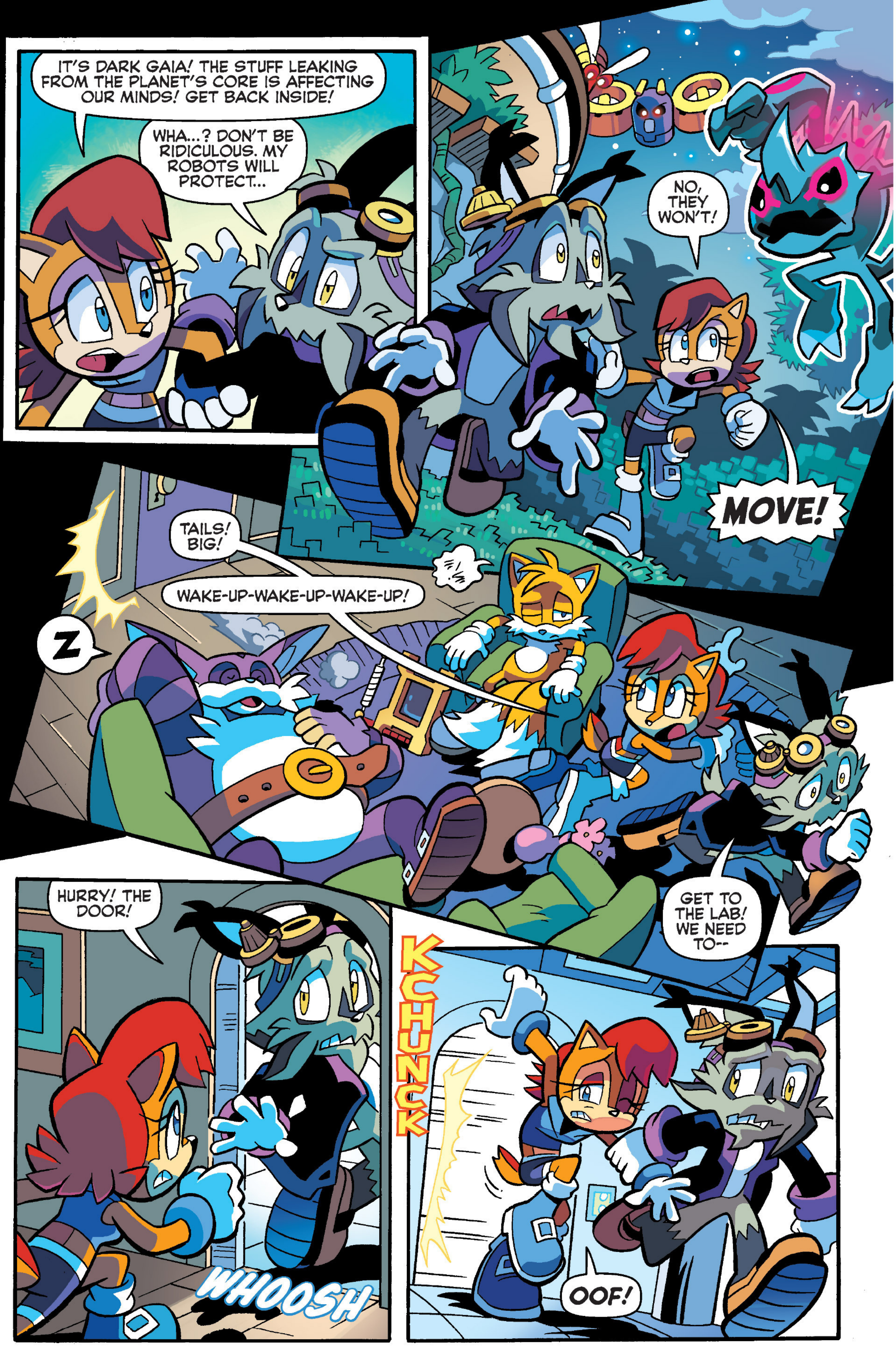

SO...YOU ARE THE ONE INTERFERING WITH THIS SYSTEM.
YES.
YOU ATTACKED DR. ELLIDY IN THE DIGITAL WORLD?*
YES.
*SU #71
AND YOU USED THE BADNIK AT THE LAKE TO ATTACK MY FRIENDS?*
YES.
*SU #72
THAT'S ALL I NEEDED TO KNOW.
SWOOSH
QUARANTINE
SSSSSS
THERE, NOW--
...WHAT THE...

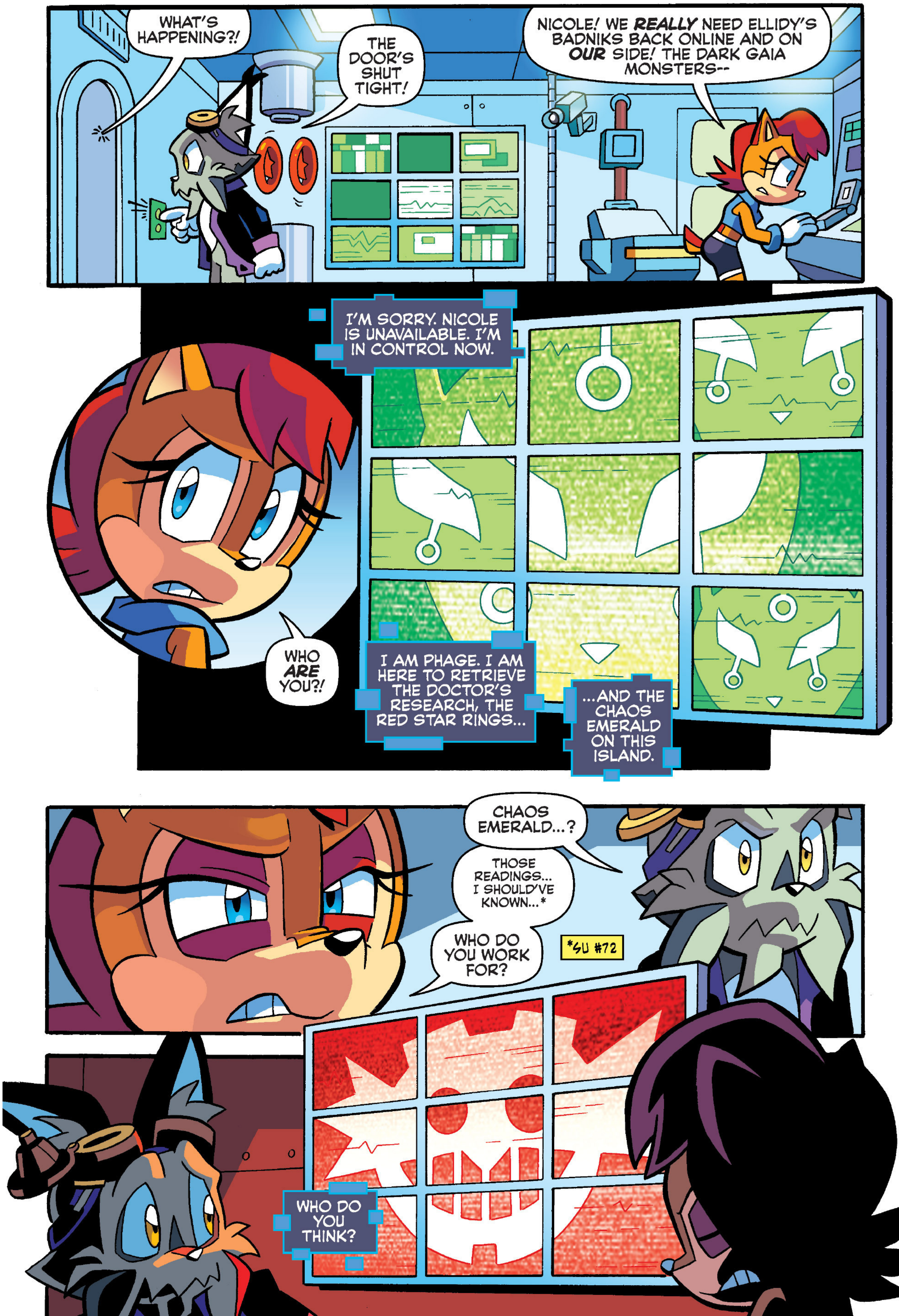

KROOM
WELL. THAT WAS CUTE.
AMUSING.
MILDLY ENTERTAINING.
I'M HERE WITH CERTAIN OBJECTIVES, NICOLE.
I INFILTRATED THIS SYSTEM BEFORE YOU EVEN KNEW IT WAS HAPPENING.
YOU CAN'T STOP ME.
AND WHILE I *DO* FIND YOU FASCINATING...
TALK IS **SLOW.**

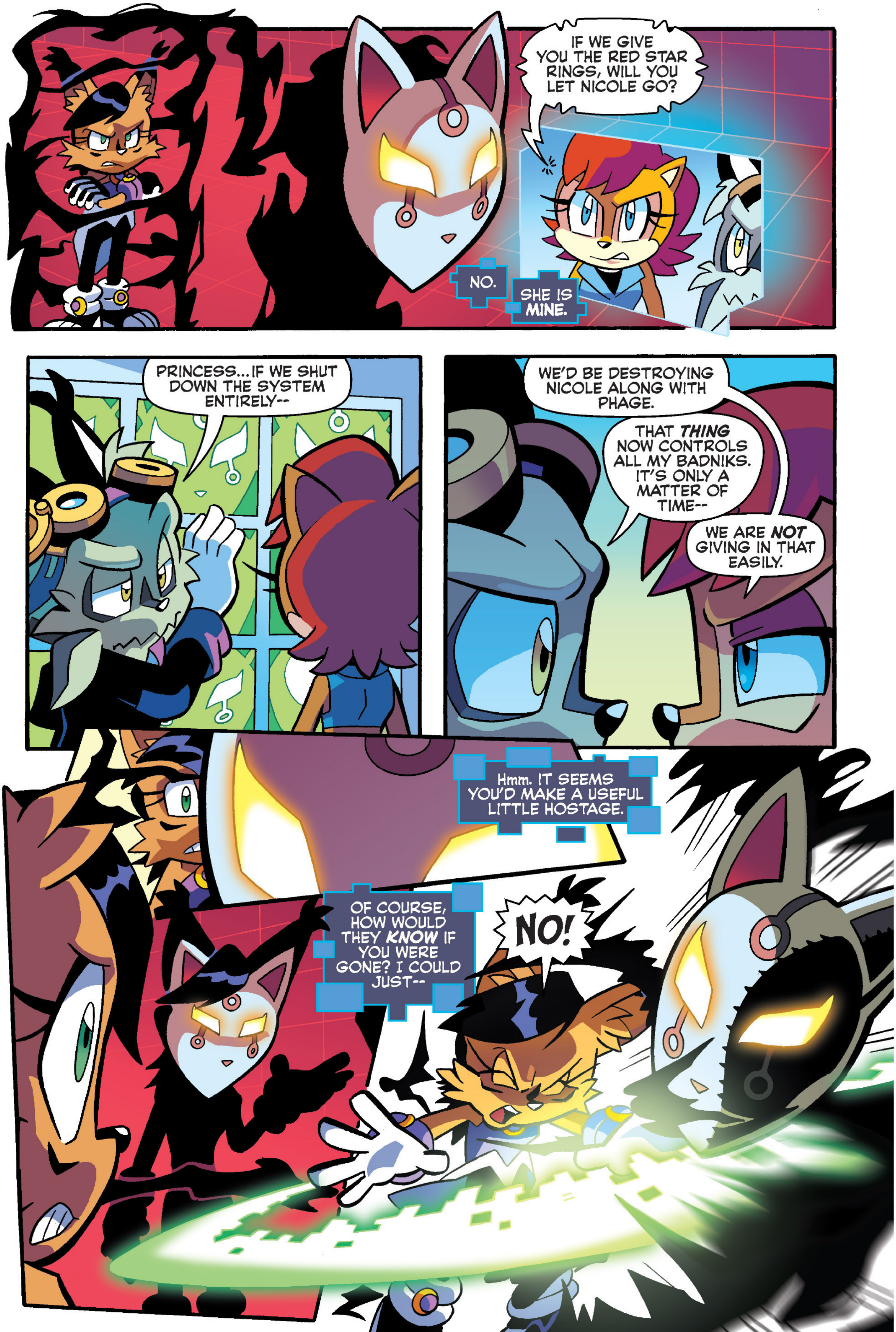

THE PAST...
MOBOTROPOLIS, WESTSIDE ISLAND
NOK NOK
EL?
WHAT? I'M BUSY. YOU KNOW THAT.
LOOK, I KNOW THINGS ARE ROUGH, BUT...WHEN'S THE LAST TIME YOU SLEPT? OR ATE?
I'M FINE. I'M NOT STUPID.
I WROTE THIS PROGRAM TO HELP MAP OUT THE NEURAL PATHWAYS THERE.
CHUCK THE HEDGEHOG DOCTOR
MAPPING...28%
...THIS IS FROM YOUR DIGITIZER? THEN...DID YOU ALREADY MANAGE TO TRANSFER--
NO. NOT YET. THAT FIRST SCAN IS TO LAY DOWN THE GROUNDWORK. A STRUCTURE. THEN... THEN I CAN...
EL...WHY DON'T YOU LET THAT PROGRAM HANDLE THINGS FOR A BIT AND--
ANY SUDDEN BREAKTHROUGHS ON THE ROBOTICIZER?
...NO.
THEN THIS IS ALL I HAVE LEFT.

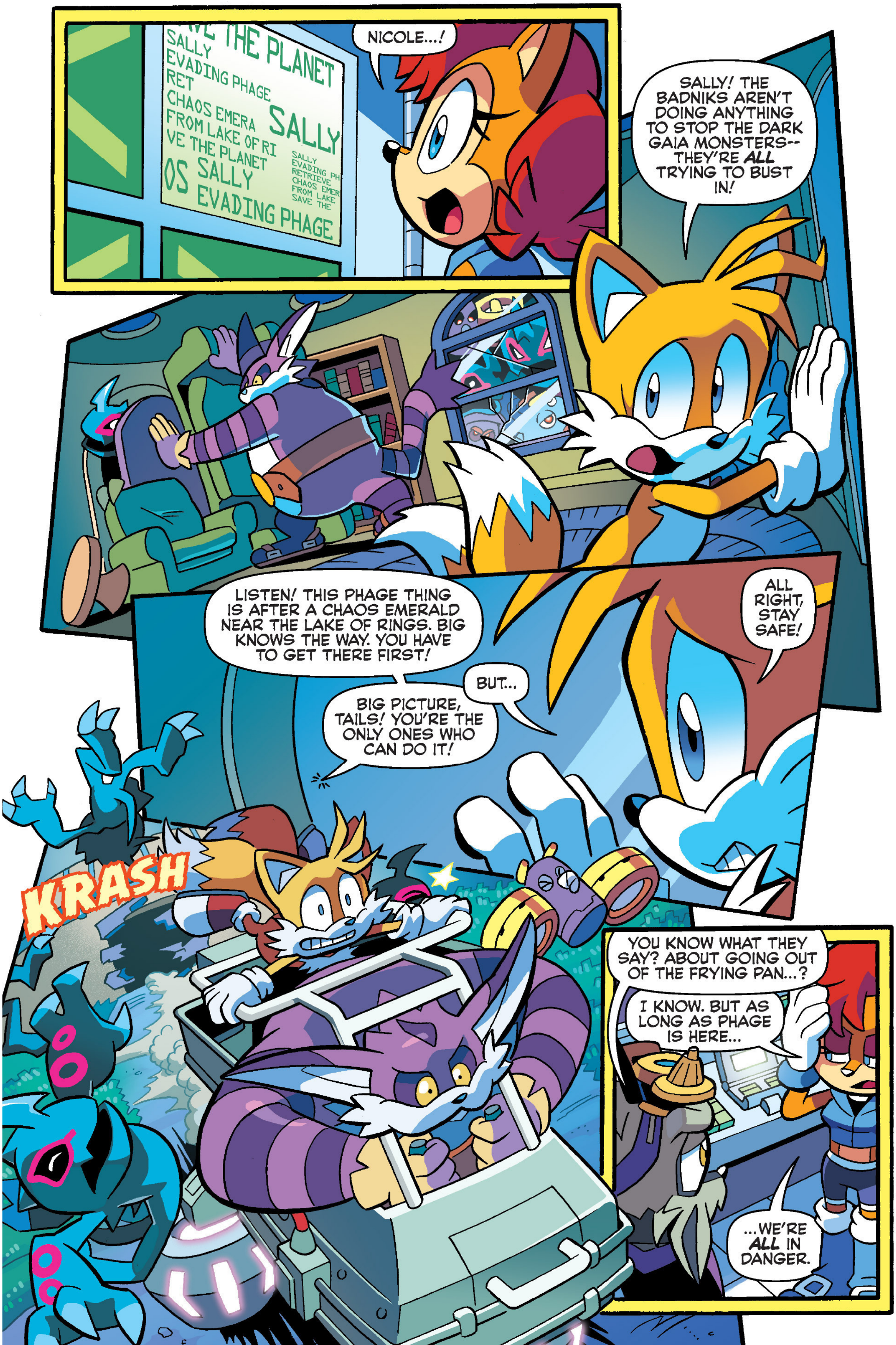

THE PRESENT...
LET ME GET THIS STRAIGHT. NIKKI IS YOUR DAUGHTER. BUT NICOLE IS *NOT* NIKKI.
I ALREADY TOLD YOU, NIKKI'S DEAD. SHE WAS... WASTING AWAY.
I'D HOPED SHE COULD LIVE ON IN SOME FORM VIA THE DIGITIZER... BUT...
THE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE PROGRAM THAT WAS MAPPING HER NEURAL SCANS... THAT...BECAME NICOLE?
LOOK, I'M SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS, BUT IT'S *NOT* FAIR TO BLAME NICOLE FOR YOUR DAUGHTER'S DEATH!
I DIDN'T!
THAT'S WHY I GAVE NICOLE TO *YOU* INSTEAD OF JUST DELETING IT ALL!
BUT *NOW*... SEEING HER LIKE THIS...WALKING AROUND WHILE MY POOR NIKKI NEVER GOT THE CHANCE TO... TO...

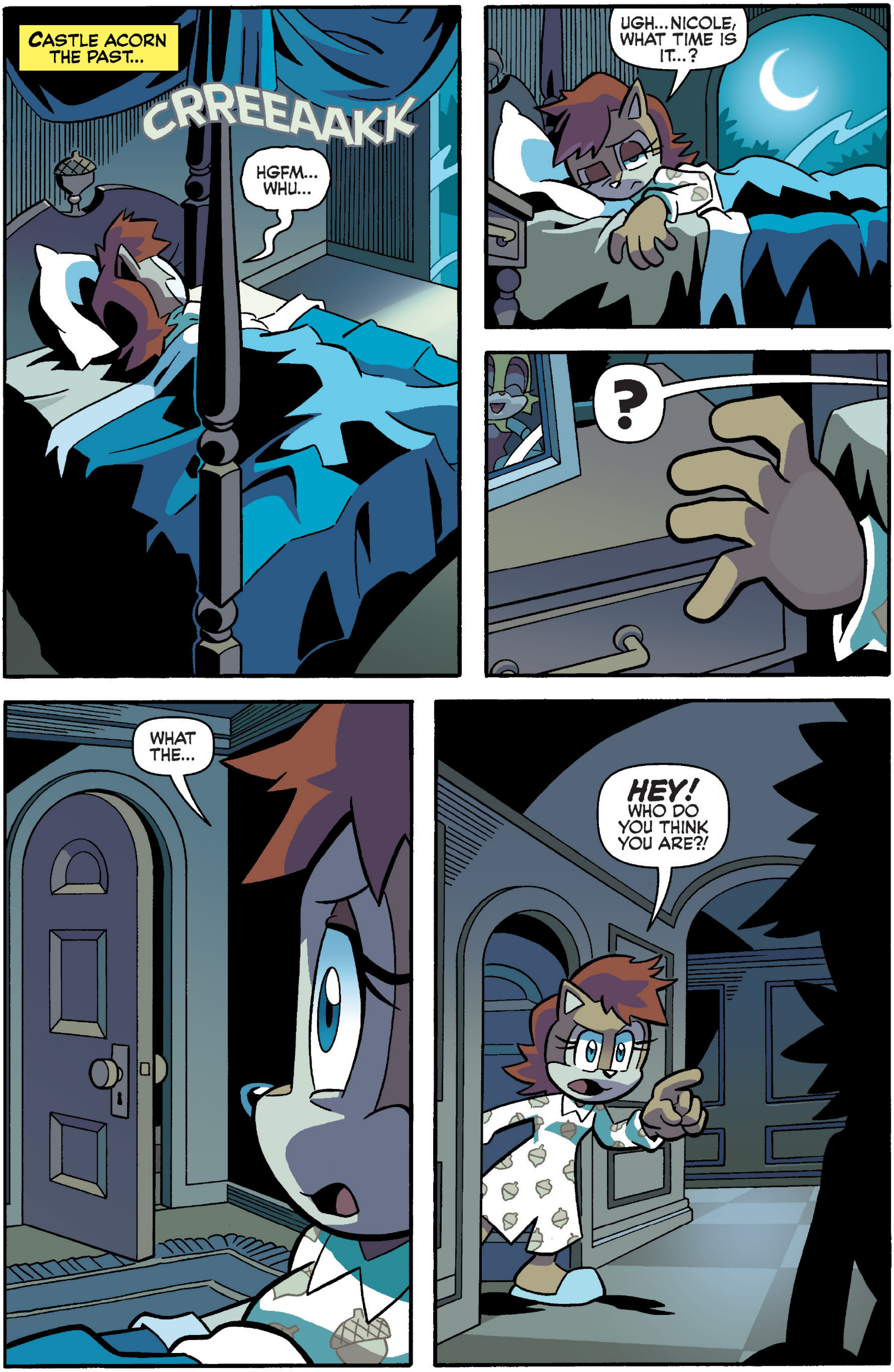

OKAY, YOU MAY HAVE NOT MEANT FOR ALL THIS, BUT NICOLE'S HERE NOW! YOU ***MUST*** KNOW THAT YOU'RE HURTING HER FEELINGS BY IGNORING--
"HURTING" HER? DOES SHE ACTUALLY KNOW WHAT "HURT" ***IS?*** DO ***YOU?!***
HOW ***DARE*** YOU?!
WHEN I LOST MY FATHER--
YOU GOT YOUR FATHER BACK!
WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE? YOU... YOU CAN'T...
...WHY ARE WE EVEN...
...Oh NO...

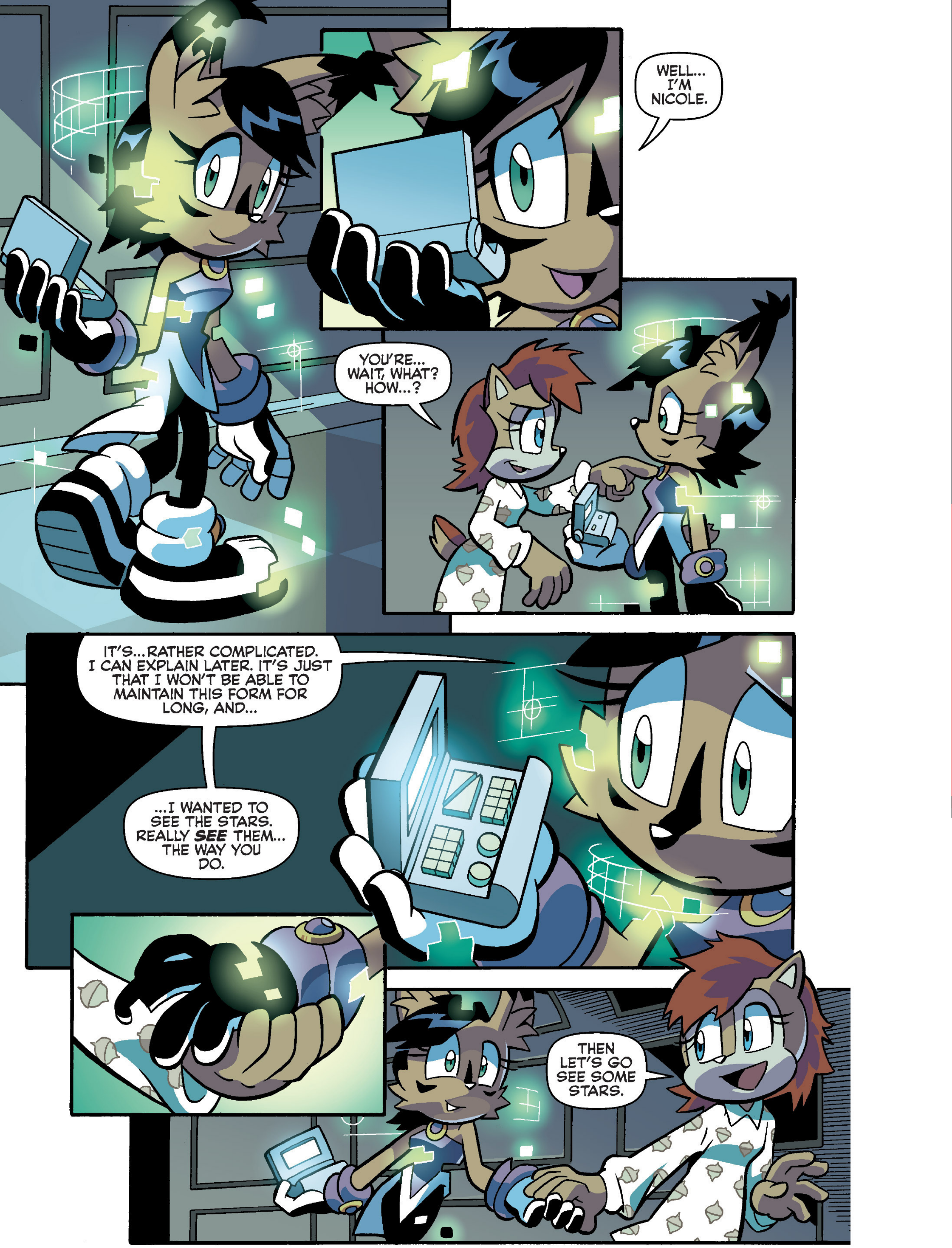

IT'S DARK GAIA! THE STUFF LEAKING FROM THE PLANET'S CORE IS AFFECTING OUR MINDS! GET BACK INSIDE!
WHA...? DON'T BE RIDICULOUS. MY ROBOTS WILL PROTECT...
NO, THEY WON'T!
MOVE!
TAILS! BIG!
WAKE-UP-WAKE-UP-WAKE-UP!
Z
GET TO THE LAB! WE NEED TO--
HURRY! THE DOOR!
WHOOSH
KCHUNCK
OOF!

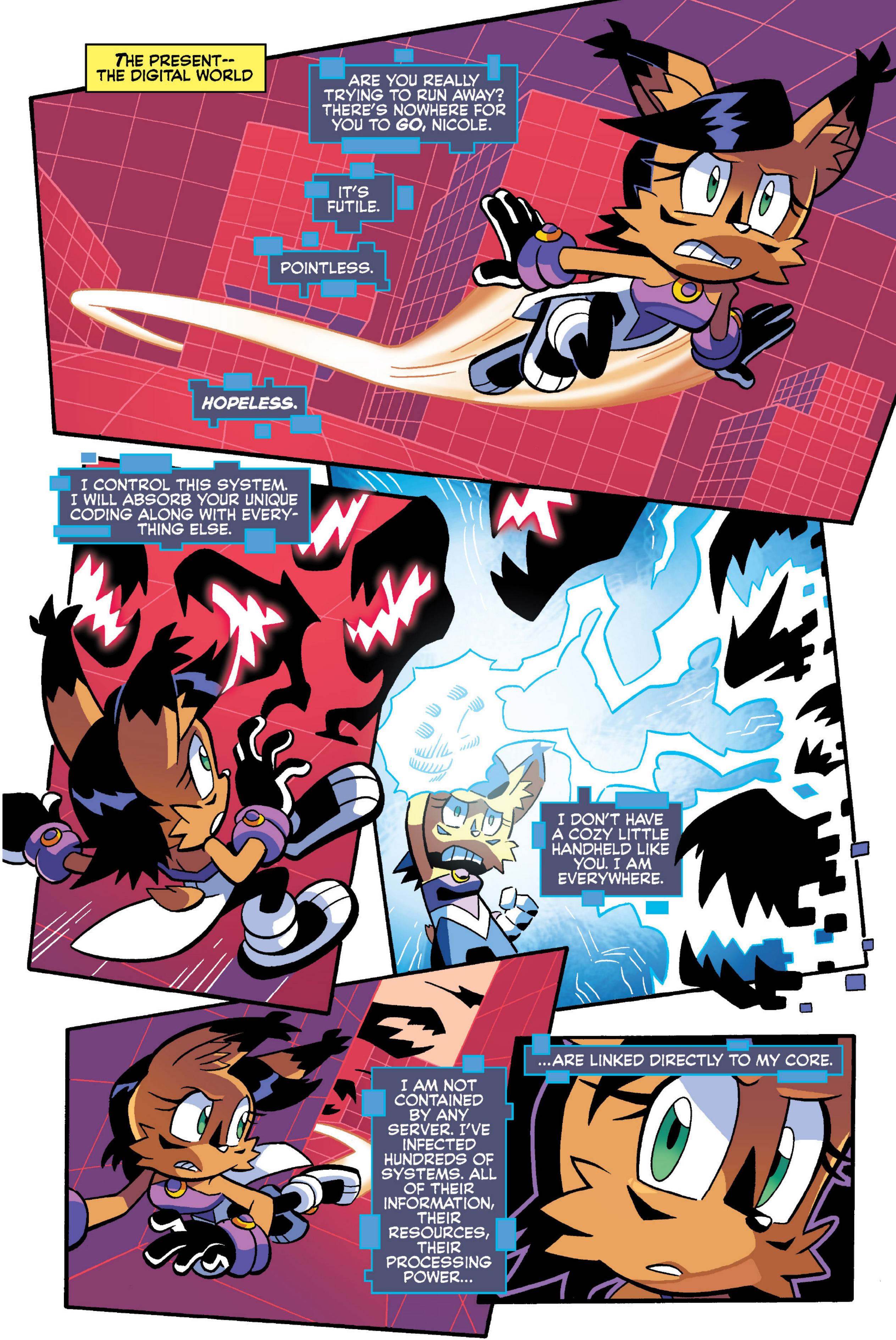

WHAT'S HAPPENING?!
THE DOOR'S SHUT TIGHT!
NICOLE! WE **REALLY** NEED ELLIDY'S BADNIKS BACK ONLINE AND ON **OUR** SIDE! THE DARK GAIA MONSTERS--
I'M SORRY. NICOLE IS UNAVAILABLE. I'M IN CONTROL NOW.
WHO **ARE** YOU?!
I AM PHAGE. I AM HERE TO RETRIEVE THE DOCTOR'S RESEARCH, THE RED STAR RINGS...
...AND THE CHAOS EMERALD ON THIS ISLAND.
CHAOS EMERALD...?
THOSE READINGS... I SHOULD'VE KNOWN...*
*SU #72
WHO DO YOU WORK FOR?
WHO DO YOU THINK?

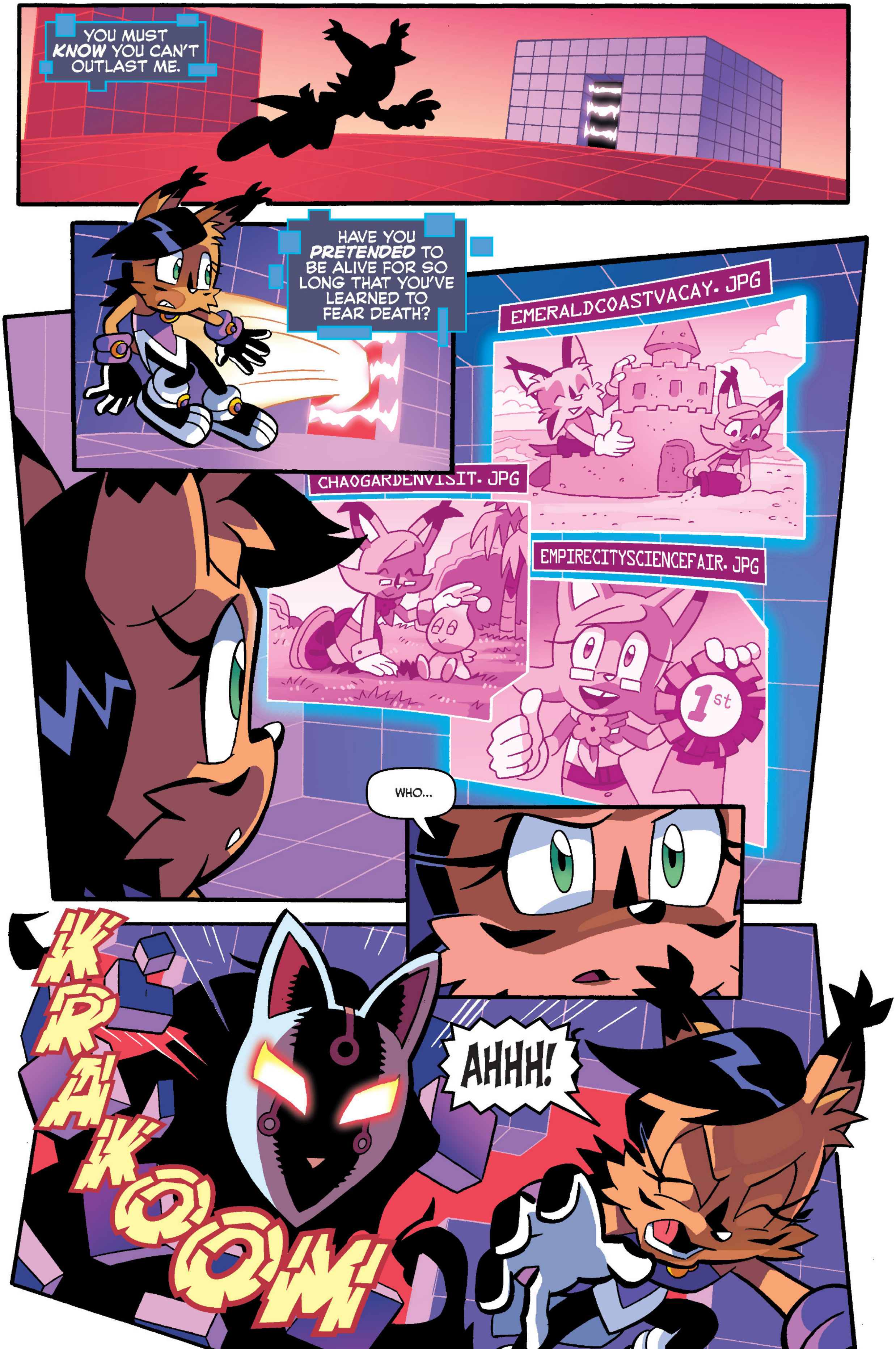

IF WE GIVE YOU THE RED STAR RINGS, WILL YOU LET NICOLE GO?
NO.
SHE IS *MINE.*
PRINCESS...IF WE SHUT DOWN THE SYSTEM ENTIRELY--
WE'D BE DESTROYING NICOLE ALONG WITH PHAGE.
THAT *THING* NOW CONTROLS ALL MY BADNIKS. IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME--
WE ARE *NOT* GIVING IN THAT EASILY.
Hmm. IT SEEMS YOU'D MAKE A USEFUL LITTLE HOSTAGE.
OF COURSE, HOW WOULD THEY *KNOW* IF YOU WERE GONE? I COULD JUST--
NO!

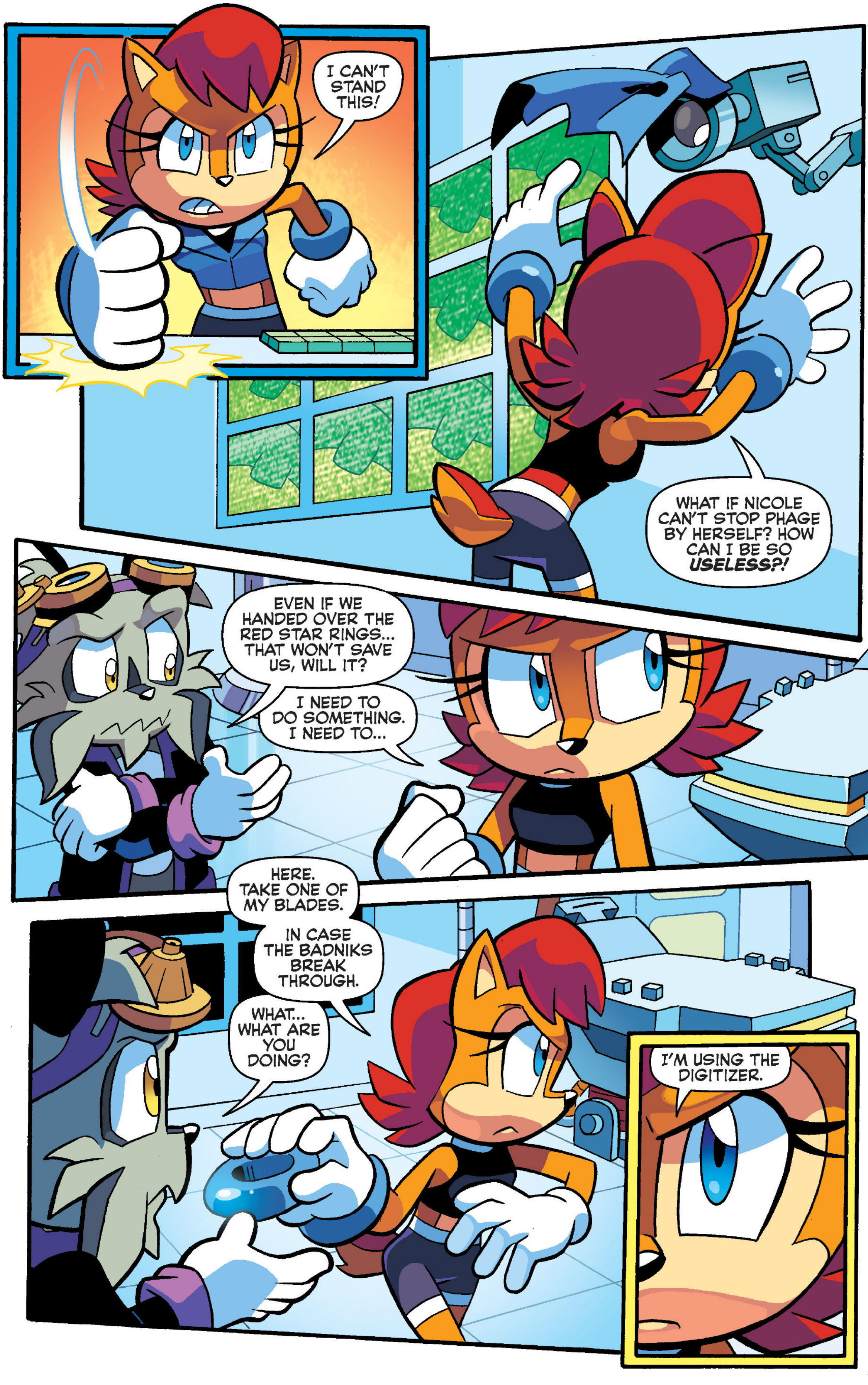

VE THE PLANET
SALLY
EVADING PHAGE
RET
CHAOS EMERA
FROM LAKE OF RI
VE THE PLANET
OS SALLY
EVADING PHAGE
SALLY
SALLY
EVADING PH
RETRIEVE
CHAOS EMER
FROM LAKE
SAVE THE
NICOLE...!
SALLY! THE BADNIKS AREN'T DOING ANYTHING TO STOP THE DARK GAIA MONSTERS-- THEY'RE *ALL* TRYING TO BUST IN!
LISTEN! THIS PHAGE THING IS AFTER A CHAOS EMERALD NEAR THE LAKE OF RINGS. BIG KNOWS THE WAY. YOU HAVE TO GET THERE FIRST!
BUT...
BIG PICTURE, TAILS! YOU'RE THE ONLY ONES WHO CAN DO IT!
ALL RIGHT, STAY SAFE!
KRASH
YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY? ABOUT GOING OUT OF THE FRYING PAN...?
I KNOW. BUT AS LONG AS PHAGE IS HERE...
...WE'RE *ALL* IN DANGER.

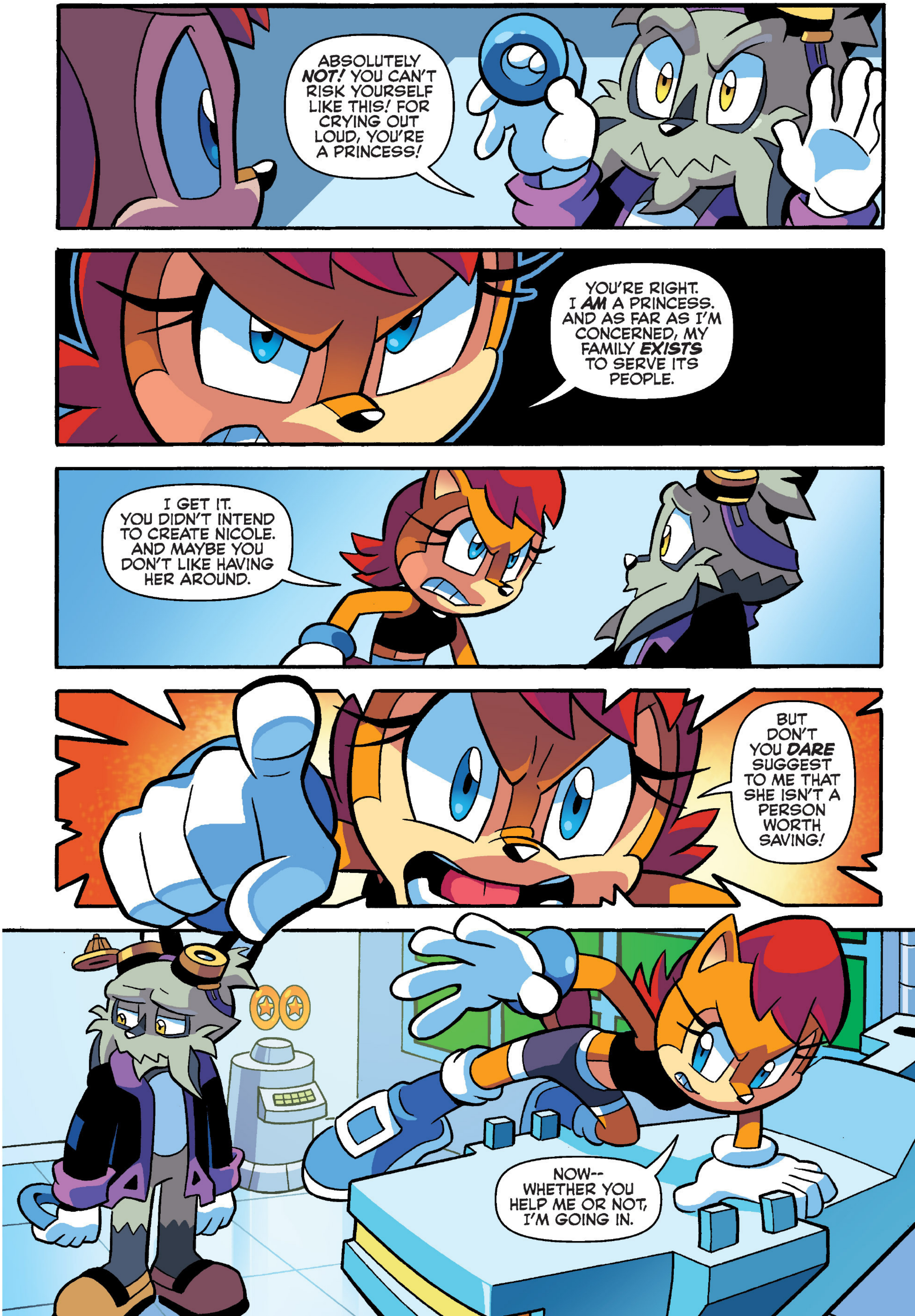

CASTLE ACORN THE PAST...
CRREEAAKK
HGFM... WHU...
UGH...NICOLE, WHAT TIME IS IT...?
?
WHAT THE...
HEY! WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?!

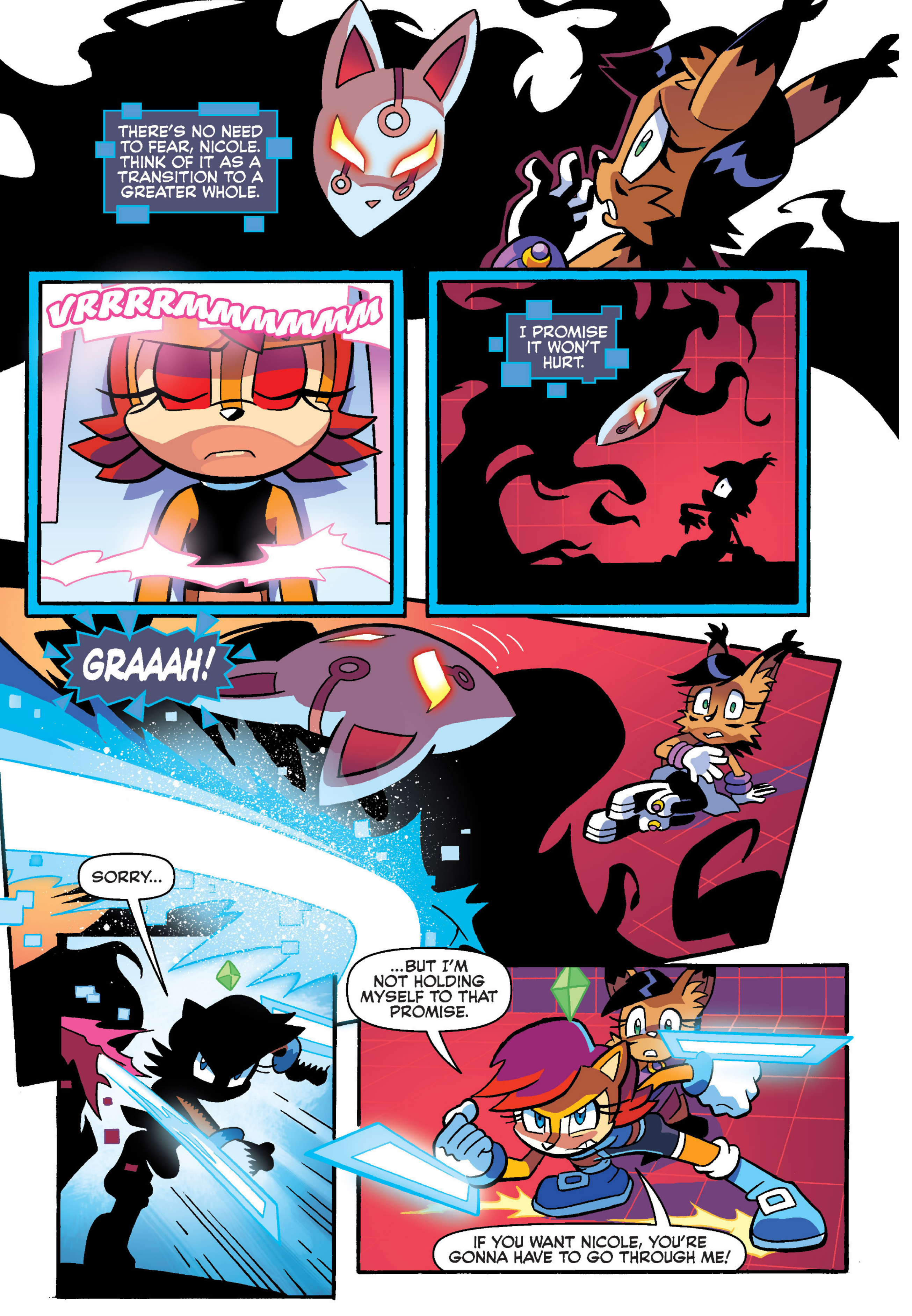

WELL... I'M NICOLE.
YOU'RE... WAIT, WHAT? HOW...?
IT'S...RATHER COMPLICATED. I CAN EXPLAIN LATER. IT'S JUST THAT I WON'T BE ABLE TO MAINTAIN THIS FORM FOR LONG, AND...
...I WANTED TO SEE THE STARS. REALLY *SEE* THEM... THE WAY YOU DO.
THEN LET'S GO SEE SOME STARS.

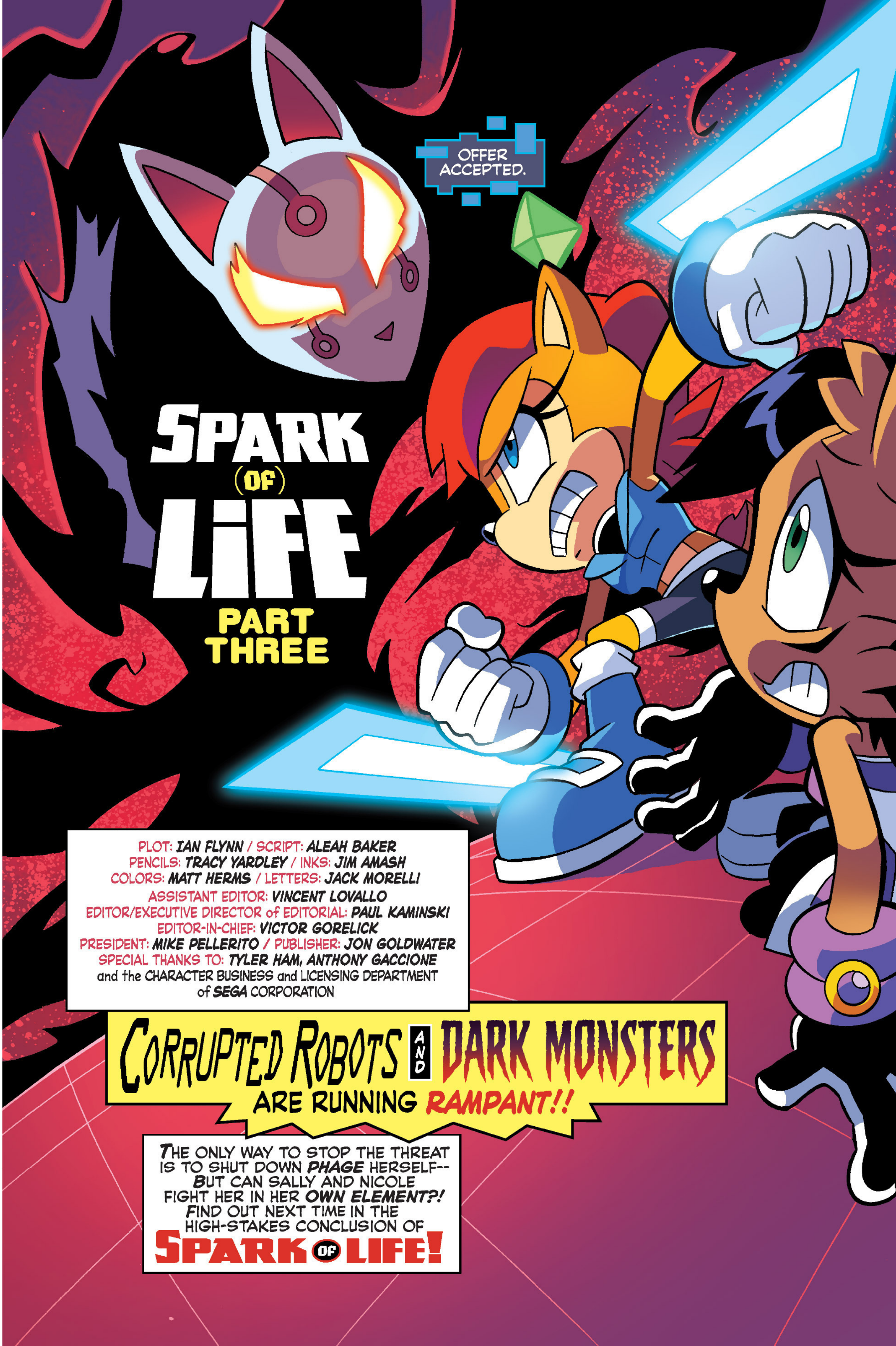

THE PRESENT-- THE DIGITAL WORLD
ARE YOU REALLY TRYING TO RUN AWAY? THERE'S NOWHERE FOR YOU TO GO, NICOLE.
IT'S FUTILE.
POINTLESS.
HOPELESS.
I CONTROL THIS SYSTEM. I WILL ABSORB YOUR UNIQUE CODING ALONG WITH EVERYTHING ELSE.
I DON'T HAVE A COZY LITTLE HANDHELD LIKE YOU. I AM EVERYWHERE.
I AM NOT CONTAINED BY ANY SERVER. I'VE INFECTED HUNDREDS OF SYSTEMS. ALL OF THEIR INFORMATION, THEIR RESOURCES, THEIR PROCESSING POWER...
...ARE LINKED DIRECTLY TO MY CORE.


YOU MUST *KNOW* YOU CAN'T OUTLAST ME.
HAVE YOU *PRETENDED* TO BE ALIVE FOR SO LONG THAT YOU'VE LEARNED TO FEAR DEATH?
EMERALDCOASTVACAY.JPG
CHAOGARDENVISIT.JPG
EMPIRECITYSCIENCEFAIR.JPG
1st
WHO...
KRAKOOM!
AHHH!


I CAN'T STAND THIS!
WHAT IF NICOLE CAN'T STOP PHAGE BY HERSELF? HOW CAN I BE SO ***USELESS?!***
EVEN IF WE HANDED OVER THE RED STAR RINGS... THAT WON'T SAVE US, WILL IT?
I NEED TO DO SOMETHING. I NEED TO...
HERE. TAKE ONE OF MY BLADES.
IN CASE THE BADNIKS BREAK THROUGH.
WHAT... WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
I'M USING THE DIGITIZER.


ABSOLUTELY NOT! YOU CAN'T RISK YOURSELF LIKE THIS! FOR CRYING OUT LOUD, YOU'RE A PRINCESS!
YOU'RE RIGHT. I AM A PRINCESS. AND AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, MY FAMILY EXISTS TO SERVE ITS PEOPLE.
I GET IT. YOU DIDN'T INTEND TO CREATE NICOLE. AND MAYBE YOU DON'T LIKE HAVING HER AROUND.
BUT DON'T YOU DARE SUGGEST TO ME THAT SHE ISN'T A PERSON WORTH SAVING!
NOW-- WHETHER YOU HELP ME OR NOT, I'M GOING IN.


THERE'S NO NEED TO FEAR, NICOLE. THINK OF IT AS A TRANSITION TO A GREATER WHOLE.
VRRRRMMMMMMM
I PROMISE IT WON'T HURT.
GRAAAH!
SORRY...
...BUT I'M NOT HOLDING MYSELF TO THAT PROMISE.
IF YOU WANT NICOLE, YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO GO THROUGH ME!


OFFER ACCEPTED.

SPARK (OF) LIFE

PART THREE

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CORRUPTED ROBOTS AND DARK MONSTERS ARE RUNNING *RAMPANT!!*

THE ONLY WAY TO STOP THE THREAT IS TO SHUT DOWN ***PHAGE*** HERSELF-- BUT CAN SALLY AND NICOLE FIGHT HER IN HER ***OWN ELEMENT?!*** FIND OUT NEXT TIME IN THE HIGH-STAKES CONCLUSION OF **SPARK OF LIFE!**

SONIC SUPER DIGEST

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The Sonic Spin!

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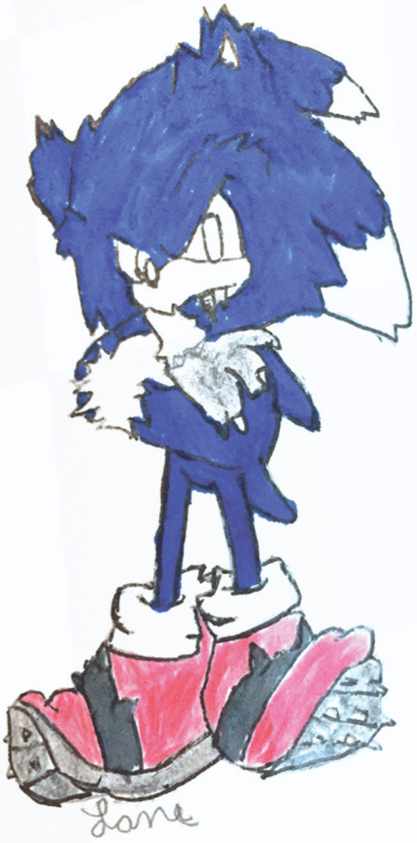

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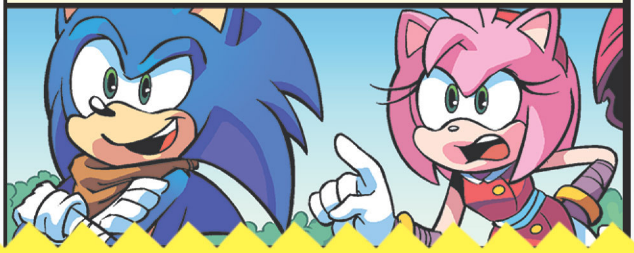

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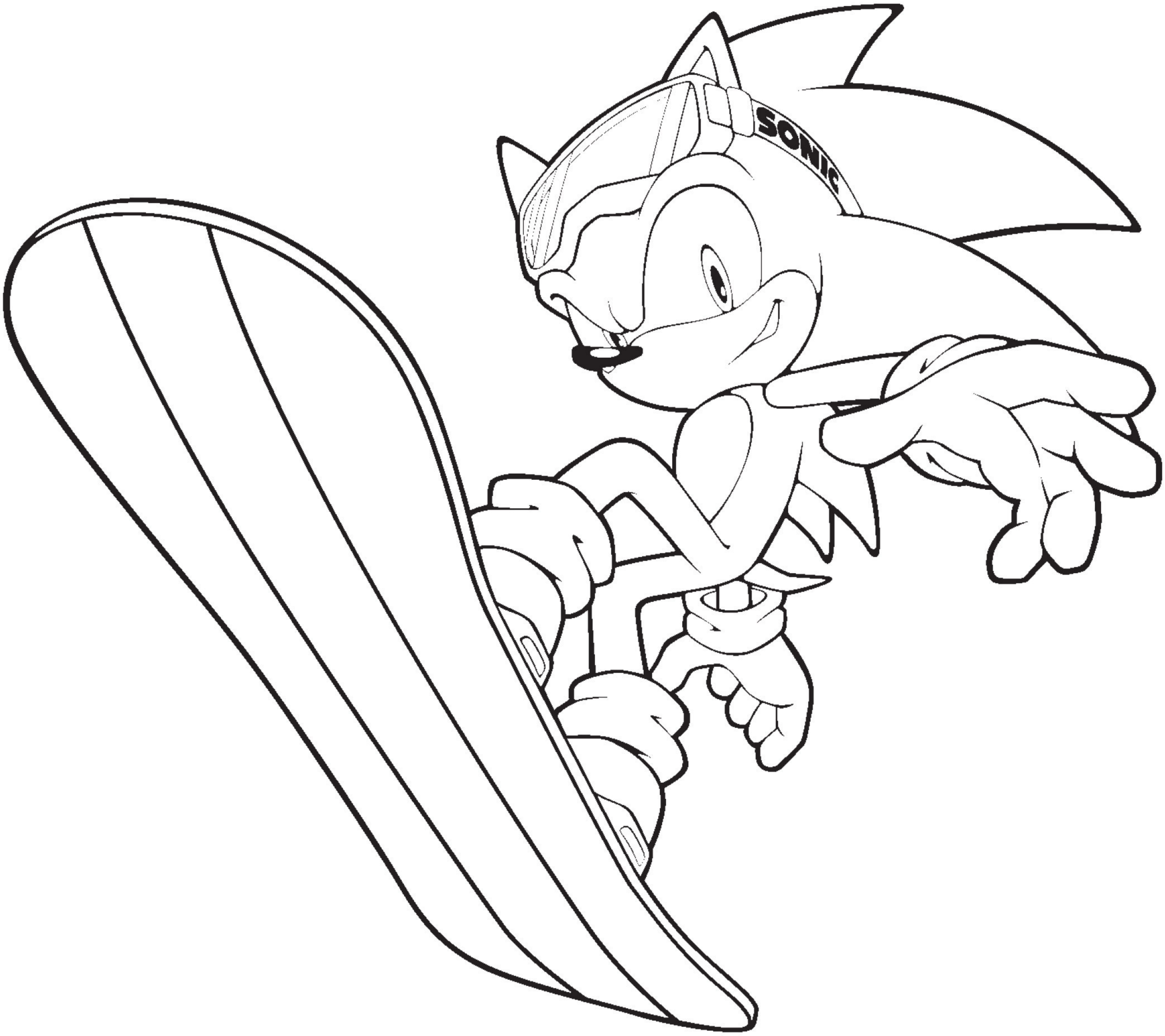

NEXT TIME IN...

SONIC SUPER DIGEST

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"KEYS TO VICTORY" & "A SPECIAL OCCASION"
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"EGGMAN'S DOZEN PT. 1"
SONIC UNIVERSE 83

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